

1. Introduction

2. The dream and its outcome

3. Applications

a) Pride and humility

b) Encouragement in today's world

c) The King we need

The Book of Daniel

chapter 4

God's glory: The humbling of a King



Introduction

In Chapter 3 of Daniel we saw a conflict between Daniel's friends and King Nebuchadnezzar. The choice was between worshipping God or worshipping an idol. It was a battle between the true God and false gods. In chapter 3, God showed his greatness by saving Daniel's friends from being burnt alive in the fire. This study we continue to see how God shows his greatness.

Opening discussion

What would you do if something embarrassing happened to you? For example, if you forgot to prepare for your class presentation and you did not have anything to say when it was your turn to present.

- a. Try to fake it and just pretend like you prepared your presentation.
- b. You feel really bad and wish you can disappear.
- c. You just stand in front of everybody and cry.
- d. You lose confidence in yourself.
- e. You drop out of that subject immediately.
- f. You blame the lecturer for making everybody do a presentation.
- g. You don't show up to class for the rest of semester.
- h. You are thankful that nothing worse happened that day.
- i. You just admit your mistake and try not to let it happen again.

Read the passage: *Daniel 4*.

Are there any new words or ideas that need explaining?

1. What was the dream about and what happened?
2. What was the meaning of the dream?
3. How did the dream come true?
4. Why did God do this?
5. How would you describe King Nebuchadnezzar's attitude towards God *before* and *after* this incident?
 - a. before:
 - b. after :
- 6a. What does King Nebuchadnezzar say about God in v34–35?
- 6b. How did the King's attitude change?

Meaning and Relevance

7. If God is king and He rules over everything, which of these statements *should* be true?
 - a. God can do whatever He likes and be whoever He wants to be.
 - b. Humans are supposed to serve God.
 - c. God is supposed to serve humans.
 - d. God is better and stronger than humans.
 - e. Humans have the power to reject God and do whatever they want.
8. How would you respond if God did the same thing to you as he did to King Nebuchadnezzar?
 - a. get annoyed with God.
 - b. get annoyed with others.
 - c. lose confidence in yourself.
 - d. hide yourself in your room and vow never to show your face again.
 - e. be thankful that you came to your senses and repent of your pride.
 - f. worship and glorify God.
9. What good reasons can you give to explain why God likes people who are humble?
10. As you have been learning, the Old Testament's aim is to help us understand Jesus better. Why is Jesus humble even though He is God?

Philippians 2

⁵ *In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:*

⁶ *Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage;* ⁷ *rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness.* ⁸ *And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross!*