

Daniel 4

4 King Nebuchadnezzar, To the nations and peoples of every language, who live in all the earth: May you prosper greatly! ² It is my pleasure to tell you about the miraculous signs and wonders that the Most High God has performed for me. ³ How great are his signs, how mighty his wonders! His kingdom is an eternal kingdom; his dominion endures from generation to generation. ⁴ I, Nebuchadnezzar, was at home in my palace, contented and prosperous.

²⁷ Therefore, Your Majesty, be pleased to accept my advice: Renounce your sins by doing what is right, and your wickedness by being kind to the oppressed. It may be that then your prosperity will continue.” ²⁸ All this happened to King Nebuchadnezzar. ²⁹ Twelve months later, as the king was walking on the roof of the royal palace of Babylon, ³⁰ he said, “Is not this the great Babylon I have built as the royal residence, by my mighty power and for the glory of my majesty?” ³¹ Even as the words were on his lips, a voice came from heaven, “This is what is decreed for you, King Nebuchadnezzar: Your royal authority has been taken from you. ³² You will be driven away from people and will live with the wild animals; you will eat grass like the ox. Seven times will pass by for you until you acknowledge that ***the Most High is sovereign over all kingdoms on earth and gives them to anyone he wishes.***” ³³ Immediately what had been said about Nebuchadnezzar was fulfilled. He was driven away from people and ate grass like the ox. His body was drenched with the dew of heaven until his hair grew like the feathers of an eagle and his nails like the claws of a bird. ³⁴ At the end of that time, I, Nebuchadnezzar, raised my eyes toward heaven, and my sanity was restored. Then I praised the Most High; I honored and glorified him who lives forever. His dominion is an eternal dominion; his kingdom endures from generation to generation. ³⁵ All the peoples of the earth are regarded as nothing. He does as he pleases with the powers of heaven and the peoples of the earth. No one can hold back his hand or say to him: “What have you done?” ³⁶ At the same time that my sanity was restored, my honor and splendor were returned to me for the glory of my kingdom. My advisers and nobles sought me out, and I was restored to my throne and became even greater than before. ³⁷ Now I, Nebuchadnezzar, praise and exalt and glorify the King of heaven, because everything he does is right and all his ways are just. And those who walk in pride he is able to humble.

1) God _____ the reality of His kingdom.

We learned in chapter 2 that God’s kingdom will crush all earthly kingdoms.

God’s kingdom is eternal. Earthly kingdoms are not.

King Nebuchadnezzar learned a hard lesson:

Those who walk in pride, God is able to humble.

God has the ability to soften and change the human heart. God can change the heart of someone who is wicked and cruel. God can change the heart of the most powerful man in the world. God can change the heart of someone who is steeped in polytheism.

This should give you motivation to pray for people who are seem far from God.

2) God is the _____ of His Kingdom.

God, not people, determines who will enter His Kingdom. All these earthly kingdoms are coming and going but there’s one Kingdom that will always exist and that’s God’s kingdom. PLUS – God sets the terms of entrance into His Kingdom.

See also:

2 Samuel 7:13 & 16

Luke 1:32

Mark 1:15

Micah 6:8

Isaiah 66:2

James 4:6