

Series: The Book of Daniel

Sermon: The Humble Testimony of a Proudful King

Passage: Daniel 4 (ESV)

Illustration:

Need: God's people need to be reminded that pride leads to judgment and humility leads to their flourishing.

I. God Reduces a Proud King (4:1-33)

- vs 1-3 - The words of a King who desired others to learn from his past experience.
- vs 4-9 - The comfort and ease of a man sentenced to judgment.
- vs 10-16 - Another nightmare that held the key to the future.
- vs 17-18 - Why? So the world will know that the Most High rules supreme over the kingdoms of men.
- vs 19-27 - The meaning of the dream and the means of escape - Repentance.
- vs 28-33 - Arrogant pride followed by immediate judgement.

II. God Restores a Humble Man (4:34-37)

- God graciously restores the King to his place of honor and prosperity when he humbly submits.
- Does this account suggest that Nebuchadnezzar was saved? There is no way for us to know .
- Nebuchadnezzar served as an example to all the kingdoms of men - God does and will rule supreme.
- **Philippians 2:10-11**
- **Proverbs 16:5, 18; 1 Cor. 13:4**

III. The Ugly Truth About Our Pride

- Pride is the sin that resulted in fall of Lucifer, Satan. It was also a major motivation for sin in Eden.
- Pride is the elevation one's self and assuming credit for what God alone has made possible.
- Where does Pride live in you?
 - Family heritage
 - Nationality/Ethnicity
 - Money & Possessions
 - Physical Beauty
 - Accomplishments (education, career advancements, awards, ministry growth, etc)
 - Relationships (who you know, who you're dating or married to)
 - Skills & Abilities (athletic, academic, musical, etc)
 - Children & Grand-children
 - Your lack of any or all of these things
- **1 Pet. 5:5-7**

IV. Take Away Applications

- Identify the pride that exists in your life.
- Repent by confessing what it actually is - Sin.
- Move forward exercising humility towards God and others.