

UNCERTAIN TIMES

WARNING TO THE KING

DANIEL 4:4-5 NLT “I, Nebuchadnezzar, was living in my palace in comfort and prosperity.⁽⁵⁾ But one night I had a dream that frightened me; I saw visions that terrified me as I lay in my bed.”

DANIEL 4:27 NLT “King Nebuchadnezzar, please accept my advice. Stop sinning and do what is right. Break from your wicked past and be merciful to the poor. Perhaps then you will continue to prosper.”

PSALMS 19:8-11 NLT The commandments of the LORD are right, bringing joy to the heart. The commands of the LORD are clear, giving insight for living.⁽⁹⁾ Reverence for the LORD is pure, lasting forever. The laws of the LORD are true; each one is fair.⁽¹⁰⁾ They are more desirable than gold, even the finest gold. They are sweeter than honey, even honey dripping from the comb.⁽¹¹⁾ They are a warning to your servant, a great reward for those who obey them.

HUMBLING OF THE KING

DANIEL 4:29-31 ESV At the end of twelve months he was walking on the roof of the royal palace of Babylon,⁽³⁰⁾ and the king answered and said, “Is not this great Babylon, which I have built by my mighty power as a royal residence and for the glory of my majesty?”⁽³¹⁾ While the words were still in the king's mouth, there fell a voice from heaven, “O King Nebuchadnezzar, to you it is spoken: The kingdom has departed from you,”

LUKE 14:11 NLT “For those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.”

RESTORATION OF THE KING

DANIEL 4:34-35 NLT “After this time had passed, I, Nebuchadnezzar, looked up to heaven. My sanity returned, and I praised and worshiped the Most High and honored the one who lives forever. His rule is everlasting, and his kingdom is eternal.⁽³⁵⁾ All the people of the earth are nothing compared to him. He does as he pleases among the angels of heaven and among the people of the earth. No one can stop him or say to him, ‘What do you mean by doing these things?’”

DANIEL 4:36-37 NLT “When my sanity returned to me, so did my honor and glory and kingdom. My advisers and nobles sought me out, and I was restored as head of my kingdom, with even greater honor than before.⁽³⁷⁾ Now I, Nebuchadnezzar, praise and glorify and honor the King of heaven. All his acts are just and true, and he is able to humble the proud.”

JAMES 4:5-6,10 NLT Do you think the Scriptures have no meaning? They say that God is passionate that the spirit he has placed within us should be faithful to him.⁽⁶⁾ And he gives grace generously. As the Scriptures say, “God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.”⁽¹⁰⁾ Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up in honor.

THINK & DISCUSS:

1. How are you listening to the warnings God is sending you?
2. What areas of personal pride might you need to address?
3. What would living a humble life look like for you personally?

MAKE A STAND:

Humble yourself and pray!