

Daniel 4  
Chapter 4 Walkthrough

4.1-3 – Introduction/Nebuchadnezzar Decree, etc.

- a) Repeated ideas: great, mighty, kingdom.

4.4-10a – Nebuchadnezzar explains context

- a) Collision of previous ideas:
  - i. Dreams, wise men, interpretations,
  - ii. Daniel is now known as the solution
- b) Key repetitions?
  - i. Vs 9 – “Spirit of God”
  - ii. Daniel is able because of the Holy Spirit in/with him.

4.10b-18 – Nebuchadnezzar’s Dream

- a) Vs 17-18 – collision of multiple ideas:
  - i. “know” – “rules the kingdom” – “gives”
  - ii. “Spirit of God”

4.19-27– Daniel’s Interpretation of the Dream

- a) Interesting repetition: vs. 25 – “until you **know** that the Most High **rules** in the **kingdom** of men and **gives** it to whomever he chooses”
- b) Interesting prescription:
  - i. “Tear away” your iniquities with righteousness
  - ii. Showing mercy to the oppressed

4.28-37 – Fulfilment of the Dream

- a) Vs 30 compared to chapter 3: “I have built” – remember the repetition about the statue which “the king had set up”
- b) Vs 32 repetition: **know, rule, kingdom, gives.**
- c) Vs 34 – worshipping God for his dominion & kingdom
- d) Vs 37 – worshipping God for his ability to humble

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Chapter 4 Application Thoughts

1. Point of the story:

**a. Will Nebuchadnezzar listen to the revelation in the dream?**

- i. Daniel’s reminder of the possibility of **Repentance** – vs 27
- ii. Recognition of God’s Kingdom vs 34-37

**b. God’s working in Nebuchadnezzar’s Life - A Case Study**

- i. God used specific people (*with their own problems*):
  1. Chaldeans...
  2. Shadrach, Meshach, Abed-Nego...
- ii. God used specific Trials:
  1. Losing sleep; bad dreams
  2. *Insubordinate* people
  3. 7 years of wilderness
- iii. HGod intended an outcome:
  1. Turn from his sin...repent
  2. Humble himself...
  3. Worship the real King.

**c. Daniel’s theological point: God’s Sovereign Reign extends to his control of and work within every human being regardless of their religion, social status, etc.**

2. Practicality of God’s Sovereign Reign in sanctification:

- a. Is God working in similarly in your life (like Nebuchadnezzar)?
  - i. 3 Passages: Deuteronomy 8:1-6; James 1:1-3; 4:1-10
  - ii. God uses trial to transform.
  - iii. Three main “categories”
    1. People
    2. Circumstances
    3. Temptation
- b. Is God using you similarly in others’ lives?
  - i. Daniel (and others’) role in Nebuchadnezzar’s life..
  - ii. Your role in someone’s life: 2 Corinthians 2-4