

Daniel 4
Chapter 4 Walkthrough

4.1-3 – Introduction/Nebuchadnezzar Decree, etc.

- a) Vs. 1- in Hebrew this is aligned with chapter 3
- b) “great” – “mighty”
- c) “kingdom”

4.4-10a – Nebuchadnezzar explains context

- a) Collision of previous ideas:
 - i. Dreams, wise men, interpretations, Daniel...
- b) Key repetitions?
 - i. Vs 9 – “Spirit of God”

4.10b-18 – Nebuchadnezzar’s Dream

- a) Vs 17-18 – collision of multiple ideas:
 - i. “know” – “rules the kingdom” – “gives”
 - ii. “Spirit of God”
- b) Youths answer
 - i. “We will not serve”
 - ii. “Our God is able”

4.19-27– Daniel’s Interpretation of the Dream

- a) Interesting repetition: vs 25
- 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...
- b) Vs 32 repetition...
- c) Vs 34 – worshipping God for his dominion & kingdom
- d) Vs 37 – worshipping God for his ability to humble

Daniel 4
Chapter 4 Application Thoughts

1. Point of the story:

a. Will Nebuchadnezzar listen to the revelation?

- i. Possibility of Repentance
- ii. Recognition of God’s Kingdom

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

- i. Specific People...and their accompanying problems
 - 1. Chaldeans...
 - 2. Shadrach, Meshach, Abed-Nego...
 - 3. Frustrating Dreams, losing sleep...
- ii. Specific Revelation
 - 1. Daniel’s interpretation...
 - 2. Miraculous works...
- iii. Specific Point
 - 1. Turn from his sin...
 - 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. How is God working in your life to recognize his authority?
 - i. People...
 - ii. Circumstances...
 - iii. Resistance to temptation

- b. How might God be using you in his work in someone else’s life?
 - i. Daniel (and others’) role in Nebuchadnezzar’s life..
 - ii. Your role in someone’s life...