

Daniel 4  
Daniel IV: Humble Yourself

*When pride comes, then comes disgrace ...*

- I. Great Signs and Wonders
  - A. True Testimony
  - B. Tainted with Unbelief
- II. No Fleeting Fancies
  - A. A Fearful Vision
  - B. With a Purpose
- III. A Dream Come True
  - A. Pride Undone
  - B. Return to Reason
- IV. Lessons for Lesser gods
  - A. Revelation
  - B. Resistance
  - C. Reasonable Faith

*... but with the humble is wisdom.*

**Children, Listen ...**

1. What was troubling Nebuchadnezzar?
2. Who did he call on to help him?
3. What happens to proud King Nebuchadnezzar that changes him?
4. What does he do when he gets his mind back?
5. How does pride keep people from believing they need Jesus the Savior?

**A Case Study in Suppression**

Nebuchadnezzar may have been a ruler who suppressed his subjects into subjection but he had a bigger problem with internal suppression that had to do with his knowledge of God. Though he testifies to God's great signs and wonders he still reduces Almighty God to one among many and God's prophet to nothing but another pagan "magician." He works hard to suppress the clear revelation God had given him of himself and he sifted Daniel's words through a filter of unbelief. To make things worse the king is supremely proud and arrogant. But God has a plan for this ruler of Babylon, and it is primarily to bring glory to Himself in the eyes of His people and the nations of the world. The proud king is brought low by the very God that he does not know. For what it is worth, when he emerges from the other side of his extreme humiliation he testifies to the might of the "king of Heaven." We may be skeptical about Nebuchadnezzar's transformation but we can't deny that his witness to God is true. And while the Babylonian king is not a poster boy for genuine conversion, he does stand as a warning against suppressing the knowledge of God and rejecting the message of Christ. Bright, powerful and successful as he was, Nebuchadnezzar was a proud fool. Suppressing the knowledge of God and refusing submission to the Gospel is born of pride and folly. By the grace of God and the work of the Holy Spirit in us, we must humble ourselves before the Lord and embrace the wisdom of the message of salvation in Christ.

Proverbs 9:10 The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the Holy One is insight.

There is no knowing that does not begin with knowing God." — John Calvin