

Daniel 4.1-37

The God of Every Man

IMAGINE Turning On Favorite – NEWS SOURCE – Screen or Sheet of Paper
GLOBAL Leader whom you LOATHED has GRABBED Headlines...AGAIN
But this Time his BLATHER comes from BENDED Knee...

STRANGELY it is NOT about HIM --- HONOR & GLORY – True, Living God
UNBELIEVABLE!!?? Has some FOREIGN State flooded Media w/ Fake News
NO – this is LEGIT --- Least FAVORITE BAD BOY is NOW a NEW MAN!

Was BUZZ that Raced across BABYLON couple Centuries before BIRTH X
People OPENED Smart Phones one Morning in Babylon Neb's INFOMERCIAL
Biggest MAN Babylonian UNIVERSE > Someone BIGGER, MADE Universe

1. The Feared have Fears

vs. 4,5 I, Nebuchadnezzar, was at ease in my house and prospering in my palace.
I saw a dream that made me afraid. As I lay in bed the fancies and the visions of
my head alarmed me.

HIGH & MIGHTY EMPEROR from East puts on his TOGA One Leg at Time

v. 18 This dream I, King Nebuchadnezzar, saw. And you, O Belteshazzar, tell me
the interpretation, because all the wise men of my kingdom are not able to make
known to me the interpretation...

Whether it is your PARENTS, your PRESIDENT, or your PARTNER > Person
Guilt is a universal experience. Everybody at some time or other has had the bad
feeling of not doing what he ought to have done. Even people who deny that
there is any such thing as right and wrong are trapped by the law of God written
on their hearts.

John Piper

Even MIGHTY will think of their MORTALITY – Some only when TOO LATE

2. The Proud will Plunge

vs. 29-30 At the end of twelve months he was walking on the roof of the royal palace of Babylon, 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?”

Magnificent PALACE > PROSPEROUS & CONTENTED / No thought of God

Mighty BABYLON had SUBDUED Syria, Phoenicia, Judea, Egypt, Arabia

If CHARTED Territory on Today’s Map – Egypt to Iran, Syria to Saudi Arabia

City of BABYLON one of Most Fabulous Cities of ANCIENT World

vs. 10-12 The visions of my head as I lay in bed were these: I saw, and behold, a tree in the midst of the earth, and its height was great. The tree grew and became strong, and its top reached to heaven, and it was visible to the end of the whole earth. Its leaves were beautiful and its fruit abundant, and in it was food for all. The beasts of the field found shade under it, and the birds of the heavens lived in its branches, and all flesh was fed from it.

DREAM of Mighty TREE, Common Symbol for EMPIRE in Ancient Near East

Today FLOURISHING GREEN TREE on FLAG on Nation of LEBANON

Babylon regarded as CENTER of the Earth > TREE Dominates all DESTINY

BABYLON – Ruled by Neb – Mighty TREE – v. 11 Seen to ENDS of Earth

ONE of his Wives – Who was From Mtn Highlands – Missed her Homeland

BUILT Hanging GARDENS > Remind her of the BEAUTY she’d LEFT Behind

Outer Wall of Neb’s PALACE was 10 kms Long, Great Towers, Gates of Bronze

1 Year passed Walking Rooftop of Empire > PROUD of his Accomplishments

Like RICH Man in Gospel Story who Built More Barns to STORE his Things

Neb. Told Soul to Take Easy – NO WORRIES about GOD and FUTURE

Jesus calls him FOOL > THAT NIGHT he would MEET God the JUDGE

vs. 31-33 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, and you shall be driven from among men, and your dwelling shall be with the beasts of the field. And you shall be made to eat grass like an ox, and seven periods of time shall pass over you, until you know that the Most High rules the kingdom of men and gives it to whom he will." Immediately the word was fulfilled against Nebuchadnezzar. He was driven from among men and ate grass like an ox, and his body was wet with the dew of heaven till his hair grew as long as eagles' feathers, and his nails were like birds' claws.

Neb FOCUSED on GOOD PART of Tree Story > Flourishing, Prosperous TREE
FORGOT TROUBLESOME News of Chopping Down > Becoming BEAST!

I have heard people admit they are bad-tempered, or that they cannot keep their heads about girls or drink, or even that they are cowards. I do not think I have ever heard anyone who is not a Christian accuse himself of pride. There is no fault which makes a man more unpopular, and no fault which we are more unconscious of in ourselves. And the more we have it ourselves, the more we dislike it in others...it is the chief cause of misery in every nation and every family since the world began. Other vices may sometimes bring people together: you may find good fellowship and jokes and friendliness among drunken people or unchaste people. But pride is always means enmity – not only between man and man, but enmity to God.

C.S. Lewis

No problem for NEB. to be GREAT EMPEROR of Mighty EMPIRE
BRILLIANT Professor, WEALTHY Businessman, TALENTED ATHLETE,
SUCCESSFUL Film-Maker, POPULAR Politician, BILLIONAIRE Tech-Giant
Faithful Husband, Loving Mother, Trustworthy Employee, Excellent Student

FOLLOWER of Jesus – Whole World is YOURS – Seize it, ENJOY it
REMEMBER you are FOLLOWER of Jesus – HE is GOD, KING
YOU are LOYAL Subject of His Kingdom, Advancing HIS GLORY

God gives Nebuchadnezzar a traumatic lesson to teach him the source of all his abilities and capacities...Let him glory in himself now as he roams the wilderness with other animals, ripping grass from the ground with his teeth.

Tremper Longman III

When you Walk Rooftop and Say...

“Great FAMILY I Made” / “BUSINESS I Built” / CAREER I Developed”

“MONEY I Earned” / “DEGREE I Achieved” / “WEB-SITE I Created”

GET Ready to be HUMBLLED – NOW, LATER, or in ETERNITY

Only ONE Lord in Universe > And it is NOT YOU!

Neb. had to LEARN the HARD way – But Finally he UNDERSTOOD

v. 35 “All the peoples of the earth are regarded as nothing. He does as he pleases with the powers of heaven and the peoples of the earth”

The humble are exalted, not because their humility is meritorious, but because they fix their eyes on their Lord, who was once humbled and now glorified, instead of looking at themselves. They are united to him, so that his glorification means their glorification also.

Iain Duguid

Knowing God without knowing our own wretchedness makes for pride. Knowing our own wretchedness without knowing God makes for despair. Knowing Jesus Christ strikes the balance because He shows us both God and our own wretchedness.

Blaise Pascal

3. The ‘Gone Case’ receives Grace

Been 25 since I lived in Africa – when I lived there often heard that Drunkards – Soldiers – Prostitutes – Corrupt Politicians – Lost Preachers Were ‘Gone Cases’ – Beyond the RANGE of Prayers & Plans of Church

a. Nebuchadnezzar is Not Nice

Mighty EMPIRE of Babylon, led by Neb. >> Instrument of God's Punishment
Smashed SOLOMON's Magnificent TEMPLE – Destroyed JERUSALEM
RIPPED People OUT of Homeland of JUDAH > Carried CAPTIVE to Babylon

Too OFTEN the MESSAGE of the CHURCH is just BE NICE...

- We condemn the world's sin more than our own.
- We put sins in a hierarchy, and tolerate some sins (especially our own) more than others.
- In church, we sing songs and pray prayers of praise, but not songs and prayers of confession.
- We describe our own sins as “mistakes.”
- We use Bible stories to teach children to be good rather than to point them to a Savior: “Be like Daniel”

Perhaps the main way we teach nice is how we present Christ. We commend him and the gospel as a method of self-improvement. It's not that we fail to talk about the cross or even sin; it's that sin is presented as a problem primarily for how it messes up our lives and relationships and gets in the way of our goals. Jesus is presented as the one who will change all that. We tell people he will make a difference in their marriages and in their parenting. He will bring love, joy, and peace to their home. He will give them renewed purpose at work. Come to Jesus, and he'll make a difference in your life.

Michael Lawrence

Jesus HIMSELF was NOT NICE by our COMMON Definition of the Word

Just 12 years Old > Traumatizes Parents who think he is LOST or WORSE

After LONG SEARCH – Find Him – “Should have Known, Get over It!”

Starts MINISTRY – Mother and Brothers interrupt SERMON, points to Hearers

“you people right HERE are my REAL mothers and brothers!”

Did Lots of NAME CALLING to Respected People – Hypocrites,

Whitewashed Tombs, Foxes, TELLING them Expect HOTTEST place in HELL

Even when MIGHT Save his LIFE he just KISSED Up to Roman GOVERNOR
 “your POWER on LOAN from GOD, and He will hold you ACCOUNTABLE”

If Neb does NOT Sound like GRADUATE of Joshua Training Center > Wasn't
 YOU Should Be / CAN Be / Come TODAY!

Neb sounds like Guy who Breaks Whatever he Wants / Kills whoever Wants
 But is BEATEN by a More POWERFUL Foe > Sanctification just STARTED
 First STEP toward Faith Realize > There IS Great God, and it is NOT ME!

But SEEMS to have Started > God who Starts Salvation promises to FINISH
 HOPE See Fully SANCTIFIED & GLORIFIED Emperor from Bab in Heaven
 Won't See him on THRONE, or Wearing Crown, On FACE like REST of US!
 ETERNALLY WONDERING – How did I ever GET HERE?

"The gospel is open to all; the most respectable sinner has no more claim on it
 than the worst."
 Martyn Lloyd-Jones

b. Salvation is Suicidal

vs. 6-8 So I made a decree that all the wise men of Babylon should be brought
 before me, that they might make known to me the interpretation of the dream.
 Then the magicians, the enchanters, the Chaldeans, and the astrologers came in,
 and I told them the dream, but they could not make known to me its
 interpretation. At last Daniel came in before me...

LIVING God gave TROUBLESOME Dream to Mighty NEB.
 None of his Babylonian Astrologers could INTERPRET this Dream

After DECADES of Loyal Service you'd think DANIEL was Neb's Go-To GUY
 GOT a DREAM Problem – Go FIRST to Man with '*spirit of the holy gods*'!!

When his HOMIES could NOT figure out Dream > Neb called DANIEL

Neb. knew this God – Protects Servants from Fire / Closes mouth of Lions

DANIEL NOT called 1st –KNOWN to have Spirit of God – Neb. KNEW THIS

We do Too – Some Problems we HANDLE OURSELVES – Call Dr., Not God
 TRUST our Strength, Wisdom, Riches, Resources – Don't BOTHER God

God NOT for People who don't NEED Him – Only Call Dr. when Really SICK!

Neb was NOT DESPERATE ENOUGH to call God who could REALLY HELP

Wanted to KEEP True God OUT of his FACE

Neb. wanted to KEEP CONTROL – Not READY to SUBMIT to King of Kings

We ALL Happy to Hear – GOOD NEWS of the GOSPEL STORY

JESUS Loves You! – God-MAN lived Sinless Life – Wonderful Teacher

DIED for our Sins on Cross – ROSE from DEAD – LIVES to Pray for You

LOVES YOU and OFFERS Eternal Life – FORGIVENESS of Sins

Isn't that GREAT!! – We ALL want That!! Last Line of Gospel Message

There is MORE to the STORY of Jesus > MORE Challenging to US!

COMING BACK as JUDGE! – What did we DO WITH Him??, DO FOR Him??

Happy Jesus is our SAVIOR / Not SURE if Want for Him to be our LORD

He is BOTH Savior and Lord - He SAVES because He is LORD

Neb had to FACE FULL Truth of God – Makes Tree FLOURISH and FALL!

vs. 13-17 “I saw in the visions of my head as I lay in bed, and behold, a watcher, a holy one, came down from heaven. He proclaimed aloud and said thus: ‘Chop down the tree and lop off its branches, strip off its leaves and scatter its fruit. Let the beasts flee from under it and the birds from its branches. But leave the stump of its roots in the earth, bound with a band of iron and bronze, amid the tender grass of the field. Let him be wet with the dew of heaven. Let his portion be with the beasts in the grass of the earth. Let his mind be changed from a man's, and let a beast's mind be given to him; and let seven periods of time pass over him. The sentence is by the decree of the watchers, the decision by the word of the holy ones, to the end that the living may know that the Most High rules the kingdom of men and gives it to whom he will and sets over it the lowliest of men.’

WATCHERS – Only time word occurs in BIBLE as description of ANGELS

Note: Babylonian AUTHENTICITY, Story told Emp never went Sunday School

Fall begins > PROUD Claim of his OWN KINGDOM, MAJESTY, GLORY

PRIDE comes before THE FALL > That Moment NEB Fell > BEAST

Even today RARE MEDICAL Condition > People become like ANIMALS!

Case of Lycanthropy? -- UNIQUE Miracle – Common Case BRUTISH Sin

When my heart was grieved and my spirit embittered, I was senseless and ignorant; I was a brute beast before you. Psalm 73.21,22

7 Seasons?? – LIVED like Hairy, Dew Covered BEAST, Claws & Feathers!

Crowning GLORY of King > REASON Taken from him > LOWER Animal

NOT an Impressive Portrait of Emperor to hang in Babylonian Palace!!

How LOW must YOU be TAKEN before you LOOK UP

From Wall of City – He looked DOWN and AROUND --- Self IMPORTANCE

From BOTTOM of Wall FORCED to Look Up – All WAY to HEAVEN Itself
LIFTING of his EYES – NEB’S First STEP back to FULL HUMANITY

Like PRODIGAL Son – Ran out of FRIENDS and MONEY – Feeding PIGS

“When he came to his senses, he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired servants have food to spare, and here I am starving to death! I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you...

Luke 15.17,18

Like JONAH from the BELLY of GREAT FISH – ‘Salvation is from the Lord’

Neb TURNED his THOUGHTS to God v. 34 Called on Name of the Lord

God HEARD, RESPONDED, and RESTORED Neb to PERSON and to POWER

Final years RULED as VICE Regent / President – Under God the TRUE KING

Like DEMONIAK Delivered by Jesus – Clothed & Right Mind sitting at Feet

Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Romans 12.2

Jesus call is RADICAL, DECISIVE, and often DESTRUCTIVE

If you WANT to Follow Jesus – Join in Death March – Pick up CROSS & DIE

HATE – His Word, not Mine – FAMILY, FRIENDS and any other RIVALS

No SMALL thing for Many Always FEARED & PRAISED to Confess Another

Only SPECULATE how ROCKED Boat w/ Corrupt RELIGIOUS Establishment

Everywhere RELIGION – POWERFUL Block of Corrupt Relig Establishment

Today PROSPERITY Preachers – PEDOPHILE Priests – Scandal MONKS

v. 37 Now I, Nebuchadnezzar, praise and extol and honor the King of heaven, for all his works are right and his ways are just

Discontent and disaster, or at the least profound personal discomfort, are very often the necessary precursors of spiritual growth and change. As long as we are comfortable and at ease in the world, we are not normally ready to examine our hearts and make deep changes.

Iain Duguid

CROSS is PAINFUL – Death to Secret Sins, Pride, Plans, and Hopes

SALVATION is Not IMPROVEMENT, RE-EDUCATION, or FULFILLMENT

GOD’S Work – New BIRTH, RESURRECTION, NEW Creation > ONLY God

Only way to ENTER Kingdom of God – BOW your Head, BEND your Knee

c. Pagans will Praise

vs. 1-3 King Nebuchadnezzar to all peoples, nations, and languages, that dwell in all the earth: Peace be multiplied to you! It has seemed good to me to show the signs and wonders that the Most High God has done for me. How great are his signs, how mighty his wonders! His kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and his dominion endures from generation to generation.

Chapter 4 – Opens and Closes with Testimony of Neb. – Sounds like PSALM

4th & Final Story about Neb. in book – Each reveal POWER of God of ISRAEL

Stories about Neb. in Daniel cover 43 yrs of his REIGN over Babylon

CRITICS say does not Sound Babylonian – More like HEBREW Praise to God

Faithful Chinese Pastor leads Pres Xi to faith in Jesus & Disciples him in Bible

Pres’ VOCABULARY of Faith will be like the PASTOR who Taught him

So HEAR TEACHING of DANIEL in VOICE of NEB in Chapter 4

"It is grace at the beginning, and grace at the end. So that when you and I come to lie upon our death beds, the one thing that should comfort and help and strengthen us there is the thing that helped us in the beginning. Not what we have been, not what we have done, but the Grace of God in Jesus Christ our Lord. The Christian life starts with grace, it must continue with grace, it ends with grace. Grace wondrous grace. By the grace of God I am what I am. Yet not I, but the Grace of God which was with me." Martyn Lloyd-Jones

Book of DANIEL > God is NOT Finished with His ETERNAL PURPOSE

He is PROMISE Keeper > Even if it takes 1000's of years to FULFILL Promises

1500 years BEFORE Daneil – God made PROMISES to FATHER ABRAHAM

“all peoples on earth will be blessed through you” Genesis 12.3

“YOU” POINTED beyond him to GREAT SON of Abraham

SAVIOR of WORLD – comes from Line of Abraham – Lord Jesus Christ

Story of BIBLE > Story of Jesus > Lots of WAITING in Faith, Disappointment

There ARE Long Periods of Time – NOT MUCH Seems to Happen

Just when we Think FAITH is for LOSERS and NOBODIES > Read Daniel ch 4

TESTIMONY Most Powerful man on PLANET, Ruled Greatest Empire his time

vs. 34 At the end of the days I, Nebuchadnezzar, lifted my eyes to heaven...

Chapter 4 SPANS 8 years of Neb's Life

SECULAR Historians DOUBT whether this REALLY HAPPENED

Babylonian Records NO MENTION of Emperor following God of Israel

NOT SURPRISING! Shameful, Embarrassing!! NOT Mean did NOT HAPPEN

Official ANNALS of Babylon – Scant DETAILS of last years of his REIGN

Years later APOSTLE John INVITED to See Another Beautiful CITY of GOD
 City is Magnificent Beyond Description > Eternal Dwelling of God & His People

The city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and its lamp is the Lamb. By its light will the nations walk, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it...They will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations.
 Revelation 21.23,24,26

When we think of NATIONS > MONUMENTS, MONEY, or MIGHT
 God will Not be Glorified by our NATION Pride > God of Heaven Not Need
 MAN cannot Enhance God's Splendor / Instead he PRAISES HIS GREATNESS
 What could we give? >> Box of Chocolates, Eifel Tower or a Tomahawk Missile

Fulfillment of Ingathering of Worldwide Harvest of Gospel

The kings of Tarshish and of distant shores will bring tribute to him; the kings of Sheba and Seba will present him gifts. All kings will bow down to him and all nations will serve him.
 Psalm 72.10-11

He will be GLORIFIED when People – Made in His IMAGE with all their
 UNIQUE, CULTURES, COLORS, and CUSTOMS – Bring WHOLE Selves
 FULLY TRANSFORMED > Fully Redeemed > Finished New Creation
 Every DISTINCTIVE of our CREATION > DEVOTED to our CREATOR

I don't know if MY NATION will be here in 100 years or 1000 years
 But I KNOW that Jesus Christ RULES Whole World – NOW and Forever!
 KING of Kings strolls Rooftop of God's Palace > Sight of Amazing Beauty
 ETERNAL Temple of Living God – Living Stones from whole Earth
 Men, Women, Boys, Girls every Tongue, Tribe, People, and Nation

This King REASON for True PRIDE > He PAID for it ALL > BLOOD
Kingdom BUILT FOREVER – NEVER SHAKEN – Joy & Blessing Forever!
PAID Highest Price – BLOOD of Eternal Son of God
PROVEN by EMPTY TOMB – POURED Out in Gift of Holy Spirit ours NOW
COMPLETED when He RETURNS in Power and Glory to Take us to Himself!

Summon your power, O God; show us your strength, O God, as you have done
before. Because of your temple at Jerusalem kings will bring you gifts...Envoys
will come from Egypt; Cush will submit herself to God. Sing to God, O
kingdoms of the earth, sing praise to the Lord Psalm 68.28-32

Daniel 4.¹King Nebuchadnezzar to all peoples, nations, and languages, that dwell in all the earth: Peace be multiplied to you! ²It has seemed good to me to show the signs and wonders that the Most High God has done for me.

³How great are his signs,
how mighty his wonders!

His kingdom is an everlasting kingdom,
and his dominion endures from generation to generation.

⁴I, Nebuchadnezzar, was at ease in my house and prospering in my palace. ⁵I saw a dream that made me afraid. As I lay in bed the fancies and the visions of my head alarmed me. ⁶So I made a decree that all the wise men of Babylon should be brought before me, that they might make known to me the interpretation of the dream. ⁷Then the magicians, the enchanters, the Chaldeans, and the astrologers came in, and I told them the dream, but they could not make known to me its interpretation. ⁸At last Daniel came in before me—he who was named Belteshazzar after the name of my god, and in whom is the spirit of the holy gods—and I told him the dream, saying, ⁹“O Belteshazzar, chief of the magicians, because I know that the spirit of the holy gods is in you and that no mystery is too difficult for you, tell me the visions of my dream that I saw and their interpretation. ¹⁰The visions of my head as I lay in bed were these: I saw, and behold, a tree in the midst of the earth, and its height was great. ¹¹The tree grew and became strong, and its top reached to heaven, and it was visible to the end of the whole earth. ¹²Its leaves were beautiful and its fruit abundant, and in it was food for all. The beasts of the field found shade under it, and the birds of the heavens lived in its branches, and all flesh was fed from it.

¹³“I saw in the visions of my head as I lay in bed, and behold, a watcher, a holy one, came down from heaven. ¹⁴He proclaimed aloud and said thus: ‘Chop down the tree and lop off its branches, strip off its leaves and scatter its fruit. Let the beasts flee from under it and the birds from its branches. ¹⁵But leave the stump of its roots in the earth, bound with a band of iron and bronze, amid the tender grass of the field. Let him be wet with the dew of heaven. Let his portion be with the beasts in the grass of the earth. ¹⁶Let his mind be changed from a man's, and let a beast's mind be given to him; and let seven periods of time pass over him. ¹⁷The sentence is by the decree of the watchers, the decision by the word of the holy ones, to the end that the living may know that the Most High rules the kingdom of men and gives it to whom he will and sets over it the lowliest of men.’ ¹⁸This dream I, King Nebuchadnezzar, saw. And you, O Belteshazzar, tell me the interpretation, because all the wise men of my kingdom are not able to make known to me the interpretation, but you are able, for the spirit of the holy gods is in you.”

¹⁹ Then Daniel, whose name was Belteshazzar, was dismayed for a while, and his thoughts alarmed him. The king answered and said, “Belteshazzar, let not the dream or the interpretation alarm you.” Belteshazzar answered and said, “My lord, may the dream be for those who hate you and its interpretation for your enemies! ²⁰ The tree you saw, which grew and became strong, so that its top reached to heaven, and it was visible to the end of the whole earth,²¹ whose leaves were beautiful and its fruit abundant, and in which was food for all, under which beasts of the field found shade, and in whose branches the birds of the heavens lived— ²² it is you, O king, who have grown and become strong. Your greatness has grown and reaches to heaven, and your dominion to the ends of the earth. ²³ And because the king saw a watcher, a holy one, coming down from heaven and saying, ‘Chop down the tree and destroy it, but leave the stump of its roots in the earth, bound with a band of iron and bronze, in the tender grass of the field, and let him be wet with the dew of heaven, and let his portion be with the beasts of the field, till seven periods of time pass over him,’ ²⁴ this is the interpretation, O king: It is a decree of the Most High, which has come upon my lord the king, ²⁵ that you shall be driven from among men, and your dwelling shall be with the beasts of the field. You shall be made to eat grass like an ox, and you shall be wet with the dew of heaven, and seven periods of time shall pass over you, till you know that the Most High rules the kingdom of men and gives it to whom he will. ²⁶ And as it was commanded to leave the stump of the roots of the tree, your kingdom shall be confirmed for you from the time that you know that Heaven rules. ²⁷ Therefore, O king, let my counsel be acceptable to you: break off your sins by practicing righteousness, and your iniquities by showing mercy to the oppressed, that there may perhaps be a lengthening of your prosperity.”

²⁸ All this came upon King Nebuchadnezzar. ²⁹ 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, ³² and you shall be driven from among men, and your dwelling shall be with the beasts of the field. And you shall be made to eat grass like an ox, and seven periods of time shall pass over you, until you know that the Most High rules the kingdom of men and gives it to whom he will.” ³³ Immediately the word was fulfilled against Nebuchadnezzar. He was driven from among men and ate grass like an ox, and his body was wet with the dew of heaven till his hair grew as long as eagles' feathers, and his nails were like birds' claws.

³⁴ At the end of the days I, Nebuchadnezzar, lifted my eyes to heaven, and my reason returned to me, and I blessed the Most High, and praised and honored him who lives forever,

for his dominion is an everlasting dominion,

and his kingdom endures from generation to generation;

³⁵ all the inhabitants of the earth are accounted as nothing,

and he does according to his will among the host of heaven

and among the inhabitants of the earth;

and none can stay his hand

or say to him, "What have you done?"

³⁶ At the same time my reason returned to me, and for the glory of my

kingdom, my majesty and splendor returned to me. My counselors and my lords

sought me, and I was established in my kingdom, and still more greatness

was added to me. ³⁷ Now I, Nebuchadnezzar, praise and extol and honor the King of heaven, for all his works are right and his ways are just; and those who walk in pride he is able to humble.

The Holy Bible, English Standard Version. ESV®