

E2E - Part 109A

Daniel 4

Mark Kring, Senior Pastor

March 1, 2026



1. One of the strongest indicators that someone has aligned themselves with God is a change in attitude. They become visibly aware of their weakness, humble, and display a transformed heart.
2. In each account of Nebuchadnezzar so far, he seems far beyond the reach of God. However, we are about to see that no one is truly ever beyond God's reach.
3. All is well for Nebuchadnezzar, and he is content, yet he is still polytheistic, meaning he has not had a complete heart transformation.
4. The dream Nebuchadnezzar has indicates that Heaven has been watching his entire life and that he does not measure up. This messenger has been sent to him with a warning.
5. The purpose of the message is clear: to teach men that God reigns and He sets up and pulls down kingdoms.
6. Like Daniel, it takes serious courage to confront and tell a person you care about that their life of sin has put them off track with God.
7. The imagery of a tree in the Old Testament speaks of a person's pride. In this case, God reveals that He will divest Nebuchadnezzar of all human glory and reduce him to a beast, making him animal-like.
8. Nebuchadnezzar, like our generation, must learn that there is One higher than him, and that ultimate power does not rest with him, but with the Sovereign hand of God.
9. God is compassionate, patient, and merciful toward Nebuchadnezzar, but his real problem remains: he doesn't like what he understands of God's Word. He doesn't like the dream, so he asks for an expert's explanation and still remains unrepentant.
10. A) God is Sovereign all the time.
B) God's plan is profound.

GREEK & HEBREW WORDS

Dchal (deh-khal´); (Aramaic) to slink or cower, - (by implication) to fear :—make afraid, dreadful, fear, terrible

Shamem (shaw-mame´) - to stun (grow numb), devastate or (figuratively) stupefy :—make amazed, be astonished, (be an) astonish(-ment)

QUOTES

“The fortifications of Esagila and Babylon I strengthened and established the name of my reign forever.”
- **King Nebuchadnezzar - 570 B.C.**

“I make myself, in a host of ways, the center of the universe.”
- **William Temple**

“...humiliation before the Sovereign Disposer of life and death...”
- **Jonathan Edwards – 1755**

“The innate knowledge of God’s sovereign rule evokes a life-altering response; that singular knowledge will evoke humility or provoke rebellion.”
- **Mark R Kring**

TODAY'S WORSHIP

Only A Holy God
A Thousand Hallelujahs
Goodness of God

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Nebuchadnezzar clearly knew about God. He praised Him, heard His Word, and witnessed His power, yet his heart was still unchanged.

- Where is the difference between knowing *about* God and truly surrendering to Him in your own life?

At the height of his success, Nebuchadnezzar stood in Babylon and credited himself for everything he saw. Pride sounded completely normal to him.

- Where are you most tempted to subtly (or not so subtly) take credit for what ultimately belongs to God?

God Gave Nebuchadnezzar a clear warning and then waited 12 months before bringing discipline. This displays God's incredible love, compassion, and mercy.

- How have you experienced God's patience in your life?
- What does His patience teach you about His character?

Daniel deeply cared for the king, yet he still bravely told him the truth about his sin and the coming consequences.

- Why is it so hard to confront the sin in someone we care about?
- How can we speak truth with both courage and compassion?

What does Daniel 4 teach us about God?

What does Daniel 4 teach us about humans?