

Nebuchadnezzar's encounters with the lion tamer

Daniel 1-4

When will we finally get it?

**God's way is the
Right way**

Nebuchadnezzar's 4 encounters with God

Chapter 1

The gentle prod

The Hebrews honored God

They looked better

Daniel 1:13

Then let our countenances be looked upon before thee, and the countenance of the children that eat of the portion of the king's meat: and as thou seest, deal with thy servants.

Nebuchadnezzar's 4 encounters with God

Chapter 1

The gentle prod

The Hebrews honored God

They looked better

Acted better

Daniel 1:19

And the king communed with them;
and among them all was found none
like Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and
Azariah: therefore stood they before
the king.

Nebuchadnezzar's 4 encounters with God

Chapter 1

The gentle prod

The Hebrews honored God

They looked better

Acted better

Responded better

Daniel 1:20

And in all matters of wisdom and understanding, that the king enquired of them, he found them ten times better than all the magicians and astrologers that were in all his realm.

Nebuchadnezzar's 4 encounters with God

Chapter 1

The gentle prod

The Hebrews honored

God

They looked better

Acted better

Responded better

They were rewarded

Daniel 1:20-21

:20 And in all matters of wisdom and understanding, that the king enquired of them, he found them ten times better than all the magicians and astrologers that were in all his realm.

:21 And Daniel continued even unto the first year of king Cyrus.

Nebuchadnezzar's 4 encounters with God

Chapter 2

The amazing God thing

Daniel 2:1

And in the second year of the reign of Nebuchadnezzar Nebuchadnezzar dreamed dreams, wherewith his spirit was troubled, and his sleep brake from him.

Nebuchadnezzar's 4 encounters with God

Chapter 2

The amazing God thing
That's impossible

Daniel 2:4-5

:4 Then spake the Chaldeans to the king in Syriack, O king, live for ever: tell thy servants the dream, and we will shew the interpretation.

:5 The king answered and said to the Chaldeans, The thing is gone from me: if ye will not make known unto me the dream, with the interpretation thereof, ye shall be cut in pieces, and your houses shall be made a dunghill.

Nebuchadnezzar's 4 encounters with God

Chapter 2

The amazing God thing

That's impossible

No man can do what you ask

Daniel 2:10-11

:10 The Chaldeans answered before the king, and said, There is not a man upon the earth that can shew the king's matter: therefore there is no king, lord, nor ruler, that asked such things at any magician, or astrologer, or Chaldean.

:11 And it is a rare thing that the king requireth, and there is none other that can shew it before the king, except the gods, whose dwelling is not with flesh.

Nebuchadnezzar's 4 encounters with God

Chapter 2

The amazing God thing

That's impossible

No man can do what you ask

But there is a God in heaven

Daniel 2:28

But there is a God in heaven that revealeth secrets, and maketh known to the king Nebuchadnezzar what shall be in the latter days. Thy dream, and the visions of thy head upon thy bed, are these;

Nebuchadnezzar's 4 encounters with God

Chapter 2

The amazing God thing

That's impossible

No man can do what you ask

But there is a God in heaven

Its all God

Daniel 2:30

But as for me, this secret is not revealed to me for any wisdom that I have more than any living, but for their sakes that shall make known the interpretation to the king, and that thou mightest know the thoughts of thy heart.

Nebuchadnezzar's 4 encounters with God

Chapter 3

The amazing God thing

Daniel 3:2

Then Nebuchadnezzar the king sent to gather together the princes, the governors, and the captains, the judges, the treasurers, the counsellors, the sheriffs, and all the rulers of the provinces, to come to the dedication of the image which Nebuchadnezzar the king had set up.

Nebuchadnezzar's 4 encounters with God

Chapter 3

The amazing God thing

The testimony of Gods people

Daniel 3:16-17

:16 Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, answered and said to the king, O Nebuchadnezzar, we are not careful to answer thee in this matter.

:17 If it be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and he will deliver us out of thine hand, O king.

Nebuchadnezzar's 4 encounters with God

Chapter 3

The amazing God thing

The testimony of Gods people

The power of God

Daniel 3:24

Then Nebuchadnezzar the king was astonished, and rose up in haste, and spake, and said unto his counsellors, Did not we cast three men bound into the midst of the fire? They answered and said unto the king, True, O king.

Nebuchadnezzar's 4 encounters with God

Chapter 3

The amazing God thing

The testimony of Gods people

The power of God

God's presence with them

Daniel 3:25

He answered and said, Lo, I see four men loose, walking in the midst of the fire, and they have no hurt; and the form of the fourth is like the Son of God.

Nebuchadnezzar's 4 encounters with God

Chapter 4

A glimpse in the future
The awful truth

Daniel 4:25-26

:25 That they shall drive thee from men, and thy dwelling shall be with the beasts of the field, and they shall make thee to eat grass as oxen, and they shall wet thee with the dew of heaven, and seven times shall pass over thee, till thou know that the most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever he will.

:26 And whereas they commanded to leave the stump of the tree roots; thy kingdom shall be sure unto thee, after that thou shalt have known that the heavens do rule.

Nebuchadnezzar's 4 encounters with God

Chapter 4

A glimpse in the future

The awful truth

A chance to change

Daniel 4:24, 27

:24 This is the interpretation, O king, and this is the decree of the most High, which is come upon my lord the king:

:27 Wherefore, O king, let my counsel be acceptable unto thee, and break off thy sins by righteousness, and thine iniquities by shewing mercy to the poor; if it may be a lengthening of thy tranquillity.

The king's response

Lip service

Daniel 2:46-47

:46 Then the king Nebuchadnezzar fell upon his face, and worshipped Daniel, and commanded that they should offer an oblation and sweet odours unto him.

:47 The king answered unto Daniel, and said, Of a truth it is, that your God is a God of gods, and a Lord of kings, and a revealer of secrets, seeing thou couldest reveal this secret.

The king's response

Lip service

No change

Daniel 3:6

And whoso falleth not down and
worshippeth shall the same hour be cast
into the midst of a burning fiery furnace.

The king's response

Lip service

No change

More lip service

Daniel 3:28-29

:28 Then Nebuchadnezzar spake, and said, Blessed be the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, who hath sent his angel, and delivered his servants that trusted in him, and have changed the king's word, and yielded their bodies, that they might not serve nor worship any god, except their own God.

:29 Therefore I make a decree, That every people, nation, and language, which speak any thing amiss against the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, shall be cut in pieces, and their houses shall be made a dunghill: because there is no other God that can deliver after this sort.

The king's response

Lip service

No change

More lip service

No change

Daniel 4:4-7

:4 I Nebuchadnezzar was at rest in mine house, and flourishing in my palace:

:5 I saw a dream which made me afraid, and the thoughts upon my bed and the visions of my head troubled me.

:6 Therefore made I a decree to bring in all the wise men of Babylon before me, that they might make known unto me the interpretation of the dream.

:7 Then came in the magicians, the astrologers, the Chaldeans, and the soothsayers: and I told the dream before them; but they did not make known unto me the interpretation thereof.

Daniel 4:29-33

:29 At the end of twelve months he walked in the palace of the kingdom of Babylon.

:30 The king spake, and said, Is not this great Babylon, that I have built for the house of the kingdom by the might of my power, and for the honour of my majesty?

:31 While the word was in the king's mouth, there fell a voice from heaven, saying, O king Nebuchadnezzar, to thee it is spoken; The kingdom is departed from thee.

:32 And they shall drive thee from men, and thy dwelling shall be with the beasts of the field: they shall make thee to eat grass as oxen, and seven times shall pass over thee, until thou know that the most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever he will.

:33 The same hour was the thing fulfilled upon
Nebuchadnezzar: and he was driven from men, and did eat
grass as oxen, and his body was wet with the dew of heaven,
till his hairs were grown like eagles' feathers, and his nails like
birds' claws.

The king's response

Lip service

No change

More lip service

No change

Finally, he got it

Daniel 4:34-37

:34 And at the end of the days I Nebuchadnezzar lifted up mine eyes unto heaven, and mine understanding returned unto me, and I blessed the most High, and I praised and honoured him that liveth for ever, whose dominion is an everlasting dominion, and his kingdom is from generation to generation:

:35 And all the inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing: and he doeth according to his will in the army of heaven, and among the inhabitants of the earth: and none can stay his hand, or say unto him, What doest thou?

:36 At the same time my reason returned unto me; and for the glory of my kingdom, mine honour and brightness returned unto me; and my counsellors and my lords sought unto me; and I was established in my kingdom, and excellent majesty was added unto me.

:37 Now I Nebuchadnezzar praise and extol and honour the King of heaven, all whose works are truth, and his ways judgment: and those that walk in pride he is able to abase.

Your response

How long will you keep kicking

Time is short

There is no guarantee

Now is the time