

Today's passage deals with King Nebuchadnezzar's dream and how it was fulfilled. Nebuchadnezzar dreamt of a tree so tall it reached the heavens, only to be cut down to a stump by a watcher from heaven. As Daniel interpreted, Nebuchadnezzar, at the height of his success, was driven out to live like a beast. After the appointed time, Nebuchadnezzar repented of his pride before God, praised Him, and his sanity, authority, and glory were restored.

Who is the God Nebuchadnezzar encountered?

First, The Most High God Who Humbles the Proud

The root of human sin is pride. This pride ultimately opposes God and is hated by the holy God as it is the root of sin. In verse 37, Nebuchadnezzar admits that his sin was pride. Pride manifests as self-centeredness, self-glorification, and the attitude of being one's own master. How can pride be resolved? It happens when one truly meets and knows God.

In Daniel 4, there are two key descriptions of God: the "Most High God" and the "Watcher." God is the true King and sovereign ruler. His kingdom and reign are eternal, which is the ultimate truth one must realize in life. Additionally, meeting the "Watcher" God is vital. In today's passage, God appears in Nebuchadnezzar's dream as the watcher of heaven. He sees everything, knows Nebuchadnezzar's heart, and judges.

Stand before God. Acknowledge the God who is higher than you every day. Humble yourself and exalt Him. Live humbly before Him, remembering that He sees, knows, and evaluates your thoughts, words, actions, and faith. May you live this way in the name of the Lord.

Second, The God Who Grants Grace to the Undeserving

Proud people think that their success, achievements, and blessings are their own doing—attributed to their effort, toil, wisdom, and talent. Nebuchadnezzar was the epitome of such a person (v. 30). However, this is only half the truth. When he lost all his power and regained it, Nebuchadnezzar realized something (v. 32): all success and blessings come from God. They are not earned by merit or effort but are given by God according to His will—grace. The spiritual blessings Nebuchadnezzar received were also gifts from God. Despite being an idol worshiper, evil, and cruel, he experienced restoration because of God's grace.

Similarly, our successes, boasts, and spiritual blessings are all products of grace.

Third, The God Who Blesses and Restores the Repentant

Why did God give Nebuchadnezzar the dream in today's passage? Because He wanted him to repent (v. 27). Why did God humble him and make him live like a beast? To lead him to repentance and restoration.

God does not take pleasure in sinners perishing in their sins. Though He hates sin as a holy God and punishes it as a just God, He does not delight in hating or punishing sinners. God loves sinners to the point of death, desiring their repentance. He longs to save, restore, and bless sinners. Therefore, God delights in their repentance.

Humbly repent of your sins before God and seek His grace for restoration and salvation once again.

**Bible
Memorization**

A VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

“For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast.”
(Ephesians 2:8-9)

**Bible
Reading**

12/30(Mon)	12/31(Tue)	1/1(Wed)	1/2(Thur)	1/3(Fri)	1/4(Sat)	1/5(Sun)
Rev. 15-18	Rev. 19-22	New	Year's	Reading	Resumes	on 1/13

QT

Quiet Time Passage

12/30(Mon)	12/31(Tue)	1/1(Wed)	1/2(Thur)	1/3(Fri)	1/4(Sat)	1/5(Sun)
Rev. 22:1-5	Rev. 22:6-21	John 1:1-8	John 1:9-18	John 1:19-28	John 1:29-42	John 1:43-51

**Sharing
Questions**

1. Share an experience of God's grace in your life through last week's message or your personal devotions.

2. Share what new insights or blessings you received from today's message.

3. Among the three truths about God shared today, which one do you feel particularly led to hold onto and pray about?