**Daniel 4: Nebuchadnezzar’s Humiliation**

**Main idea: Pride goes before destruction**

**The Text: Begins and ends with praise and humility, but in-between…**

**1. Introduction – 4:1-3**

**2. The Dream – 4:4-19a**

 **“Watchers” or “Holy ones” – God involves other beings in His rule –**

 **Men: Gen. 1:26-28; Ps. 8 with Heb. 2:5-8; 2 Tim. 2:12; Rev. 2:25-27**

 **Angels: 1 Kings 22:19-22; Job 1:6-12; Dan. 4:17**

 **“Times” = Years**

**3. The Interpretation – 4:19b-27**

**4. The Pride and the Fall – 4:28-33**

**Boanthropy is a psychological disorder in which the sufferer believes he or she is a cow or ox.**

**5. The Result – 4:34-37**

**Observations and Applications**

**1. Nebuchadnezzar, along with Israel, needed to learn the place of God and why the captivity happened. Israel was where they were because God was a God who was great and faithful to His Word. God had not been “defeated.” Israel had been unfaithful.**

 **This is true in our world today. Evil doesn’t happen because God is evil. Evil is a result of the world we re-created, a world we wanted and still pursue.**

 **Both Israel and their captors needed to know what truly happened.**

**2. God deserves His “place” in our lives. Pride keeps Him out. That lesson must be learned by Israel in captivity, Israel today, and by us now.**

**A brief look at pride**

**Pride in Proverbs**

**1. Pride is something God hates – Pr. 6:16-19**

**2. Pride leads to arguments; humility takes advice, leads to wisdom – Pr. 13:10**

**3. Too much pride will destroy you – Prov. 16:18**

**Pride led to the fall of Lucifer (Satan):**

**1 Tim. 3:6 (what can happen to unprepared elders); Ezek. 28:15-16**

**Pride in James 4: The World, the Flesh, and the Devil**

**4:1-3 – Anger and our Flesh**

* **War within ourselves; “Lust” - Jas. 1:13-15; Rom. 7:23; Gal. 5:16**
* **We’re spoiled; “I want it that way” and we get angry if we don’t get it.**
* **Even our prayers are self-centered.**

**4:4-6 – Anger and the World**

* **We want the approval of men more than the approval of God (Jn. 12:42-43).**
* **Friendship with the world = war with God.**
* **God is “jealous” for us; He wants our best.**

**4:7-10 – Anger and Satan**

* **God responds to our sin and adultery with an offer of grace.**
* **We are at war and God offers us peace.**
* **Anger gives Satan a “door” into our lives – Eph. 4:26-27**
* **Intentionality is important – “Resist”**
* **Humility and repentance are key.**