

**I. Introduction and Review.**

**A. How Many Times do you Need to Hear a Lesson before you Finally Get it? Job 33:14**

**B. Introduction to Daniel Chapter 3. v. 1-3**

1. Nebuchadnezzar's Dream. v. 4-18
2. Daniel's Interpretation. v. 19-27
3. The Humbling of Nebuchadnezzar. v. 28-37

**II. Don't Walk in Pride! v. 4, 10-12, 20-22, 29-30**

**A. Your Success is Dangerous.**

**1. Nebuchadnezzar Took Pride in Babylon: A Flourishing Tree. v.**

- a. Politically extensive dominion with unrivaled military power. v.4,10-11,22 2:37-38
- b. Economically prosperous provider. v. 12 Ps. 145:15-17 8:7
- c. Glorious buildings. v. 10-11, 30

**2. A Life of Autonomy from God is a Vain Distortion of God's Image in Mankind. Ps. 127:1f 37:35-36 8:7**

- a. Nebuchadnezzar is Representative of All Autonomous Men and Women: Seeking Greatness without God. Isa. 14:13 Gen. 11:4-5
- b. God wants us to have our rest and satisfaction in Him alone!
- c. He is watching and will not let man's anti-dominion succeed. v. 13 Ps. 121:4

**3. Worldly Achievement Can Turn Your Eyes from God. Pr. 30:8-9 Lk.**

**B. It is Possible to Know Much Truth about God while Remaining Unconverted.**

1. Nebuchadnezzar Already Understood and Acknowledged God's Greatness, Yet he was Still a Heathen Idolater. 3:28-29 2:46-47
2. Many Intellectually Accept the Facts of Christianity, Yet have no Personal Relationship with God.

**III. God Will Humble You. v. 5-9, 13-18, 23-28, 31-33**

**A. God Graciously and Patiently Warns You.**

**1. Nebuchadnezzar is Repeatedly Warned. Dreams, Deliverance, and Delay**

**2. Daniel Bravely Appeals for the King to Repent. v. 27 Jer. 29:7**

- a. Daniel exhibits bold and passionate concern for the lost. v. 19, 27 II Sam. 12:7
- b. Is Daniel saying that Nebuchadnezzar's sins can be wiped out by good works? Acts 26:20 Mt. 3:8
- c. Is Daniel saying that if Nebuchadnezzar repents, he will avoid the chastisement? Jonah 3:4,10 Jer. 18:7-10
- d. We are not told exactly how Nebuchadnezzar responded to Daniel.

**3. God has Graciously Given Many Warnings to You.**

**B. One Day God's Patience Will End and He Will Bring You Low. Js. 4:6 Pr.3:34 29:23 Ps. 18:27 I Pet. 5:5 Luke 1:51-52 Pr. 29:23 Isa. 2:11-12**

**1. God Suddenly Brought Nebuchadnezzar Very Low! Superman becomes "Subman". v. 30-33 Isa. 14:12,15f Ps. 92:9.**

**2. God Can Quickly Cut You Down to Size. Luke 12:20-21 Acts 12:23**

**3. Don't Think Delay Means that God Tolerates Your Rebellion. II Pet. 3:10f**

**4. Will You Learn the Easy Way or the Hard Way?**

#### **IV. Humbly Submit to God's Sovereign Lordship. v. 1-3, 34-37**

##### **A. Don't Seek Answers Anywhere Else.**

###### **1. Nebuchadnezzar Only Looked to God as a Last Resort for the Interpretation of the Dream. v. 6-7**

- a. Why didn't Nebuchadnezzar send for Daniel First? v. 6-8 I Kn. 22:8
  - b. Why don't the Babylonian wise men give an interpretation?
- ###### **2. What Would Modern Man Do for Nebuchadnezzar in his Madness? v. 31-33**
- ###### **3. To Whom do You Turn When Trouble Comes?**

**Autonomous Man is Unable to Cure Spiritual Problems.**

##### **B. You Need to Admit Who God is and Who You are! Theology is Important. v. 34-35**

###### **1. God is Eternal and Self Existent. v. 34b** Ps. 145:13 John 5:26

- a. He alone is from everlasting to everlasting.
  - b. He does not need us!
- ###### **2. All Men are Nothing Before Him. v. 35a** Isa. 40:7,15-17
- a. We are less than worms.
  - b. The effects of sin upon mankind are grotesque. Ps. 49:12
  - c. Human authorities reign only by God's will. v. 17, 32 Ps. 113:7-8 Pr. 19:21
- ###### **3. God Acts as He Pleases and is Beyond Questioning. v. 35b** Ps. 115:3 Eph. 1:11 Is. 14:27 Jer. 18:2-12
- a. There is nothing that God wants to do that He cannot do.
  - b. Don't talk back to God. You have no right to challenge God's authority to rule as He pleases. Rom. 9:20 Isa. 29:16 45:9
  - c. All that He does is just. v. 37b

##### **C. Practical Implications.**

###### **1. Many Professing Christians Think too Much of Man and Too Little of God!**

###### **2. The Doctrine of God's Sovereignty is Meant to Absolutely Humble Us.**

No truth is more exalting to God's glory and debasing to human pride!

- a. You contribute nothing to your salvation except the guilt which must be removed.
- b. This is why doctrine of salvation by works is such an abomination: Eph. 2:8-9  
I Cor. 1:30-31 Phil. 3:9
- c. Is God trying to save everybody?

###### **3. How Can Man be Responsible if God is Sovereign?**

- a. You will never be able to fully comprehend God.
- b. Who are you to talk back to God! v. 35d Rom. 9:14-23

###### **4. The Great Need of Mankind Today is to Humbly Submit to God.**

##### **D. God is Exceedingly Merciful and Kind to those Who Turn to Him. v. 36-37**

###### **1. For Nebuchadnezzar, this Judgement was not Final. v. 15-16, 26**

###### **2. When Nebuchadnezzar Lifts his Eyes to God, He is Restored. v. 36** Ps. 121:1

###### **3. Was he Converted? v. 37** I Tim. 2:1f Ps. 119:71

###### **4. *Humble yourself in the sight of the Lord and He will lift you up!*** Js. 4:10

#### **V. Concluding Applications**

##### **A. Evangelism and the Sovereignty of God.**

There is No-one Beyond the Reach of God's Grace.

##### **B. If You are Not Saved Yet, it is Because You Still Haven't been Brought Low Enough.** Your Pride Keeps you from Coming to God. Isa. 53:6