



SERMON

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Speaker: Chris Royalty
Sunday: October 17, 2021

- 1) Begin your time by briefly praying and asking the Holy Spirit to help you as you discuss and study.
- 2) Read Daniel 2 together as a group.
- 3) Nebuchadnezzar was deeply troubled by the dream. Why?
- 4) Nebuchadnezzar is a classic case study of how an “insecure man seeks to overcome his insecurity by a will-to-power . . . He pretends he is not limited.” Human beings have very little real power over their lives. What sort of things in life are out of your control?
- 5) Power idols are deep idols that can express themselves through a great variety of other surface idols. Give examples of some of these surface idols.
- 6) What did the statue in the dream represent?
- 7) How was this dream a call to humility?
- 8) Much of our addiction to power and control is due to false conceptions of God. How can a false perception of God allow us to think we are “masters of our fate”?
- 9) Nebuchadnezzar had taken personal credit for his rise to prominence. Read 1 Corinthians 4:6-7. How does remembering this truth prevent us from “taking pride in one man over against another?”
- 10) More intervention by God was necessary in Nebuchadnezzar’s life. Read Daniel 4:24-27. Why did God make Nebuchadnezzar like an ox? Is God being gracious or cruel?
- 11) Read Jeremiah 18:1-6. How best are we to respond to the Potter when He chooses to remold, bend, and squeeze us? How does having a long-term perspective help us in this situation?
- 12) Read Daniel 4:34-36. What is the biblical opposite of pride?
- 13) Share an experience when you were humbled by circumstances beyond your control. What were the consequences?

- 14) Nebuchadnezzar didn't merely ponder God's sovereignty, but rather, he praised the Almighty God. What does this tell us about the relationship between pride and worship?
- 15) Nebuchadnezzar was restored and became greater than before. This deep pattern of grace has its climax in the cross. How does Jesus's life challenge your desire for power and control? How can you become more like him?
- 16) End your time in prayer. Ask the Holy Spirit to help apply to your life what you've been learning and discussing.

* *These questions taken or adapted from <https://www.westminsterchapel.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2013/11/Study-Guide-to-Counterfeit-Gods1.pdf>*