

Sermon-Based Bible Study – Calvary Chapel Kampala
Daniel 4 “Pride and Humility” 19 March 2017



Tell a story about a prideful person who was humbled.

Have some people read Daniel 4

This was written in Aramaic by King Nebuchadnezzar. That makes it the only part of the Bible written by a non-Jew or non-Christian.

1. In verse 8, Nebuchadnezzar mentions that Daniel’s name was Belteshazzar “according to the name of my god.” This indicates Nebuchadnezzar was not a believer in the one true God. **Do you know of anyone who really saw the power of God like Nebuchadnezzar did in chapter 3 but failed to change his/her ways?**
2. Nebuchadnezzar was warned of his pride and had 12 months to make himself humble. **Have you had a similar experience – something you were warned about, failed to heed the advice and then paid the penalty? If so, please share it with the group.**
3. Have someone read verse 30. **How many times did Nebuchadnezzar reference himself in this one verse? What does that’s reveal about him? Do you know of anybody who ways seems to talk him her herself all the time? Do you want to be around him or her?**
4. God humbled King Nebuchadnezzar by giving him something called *insania zoanthropia*. Insania means “insane” or “mad.” Zo- means “animal” like “Entebbe Zoo.” *Anthropia* means “man.” Technically, Nebuchadnezzar had *boanthropia*. Bo- means “cow” like the word bovine.

In this chapter, the king of the greatest world empire has extremely prideful. God humbled this great king by having him walk around like a cow and eat the grass from his own garden for seven years.

What does this say about how God looks at man’s pride?

Would you like to deal with your own pride or have God humble you?

5. **What were some of King Nebuchadnezzar’s reasons for being proud?**

Suggested answers:

His Babylonian hanging gardens were a “wonder of the world”

Being told his was the greatest kingdom on earth.

Daniel 2:37-39

Chaldean stroked stroke his ego

Daniel 3:9

His life was “flourishing in my palace”

Daniel 4:4

What are some thing that make us proud of ourselves?

6. This is true story. In every sermon, a pastor near Entebbe mentions his family’s close connection to the Ugandan first family. **How will that influence the church congregation?**

Suggested answers: they will focus on relationships with other people rather than God.

They will develop a relationship with the pastor and not on God.

Will that congregation grow spiritually?

7. Some of the super-rich in certain country pay lots of money for their cars' license plates. The lower number a license plate has means that more money was spent to get it. It's a way of saying to their countrymen, "Look at how much money I have!" It is done only for pride.

This is a true story. There was an American who ran a Christian NGO in South Sudan. He paid a Ugandan journalist to write a newspaper article about how great he was. That was done only for pride.

What are things you see people doing only for pride?

8. **List some things Jesus did that showed humility.**

Suggested answers:

Jesus washed his disciples' feet with the towel that was wrapped around his waist (John 13:5).
After his resurrection, Jesus cooked the disciples a breakfast of fish and bread (John 21:9, 12).

9. This is a multi-choice question. Listen to all the possible answers and choose the correct answer.

Judas betrayed Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane. What did Judas tell the Romans how they would know which man was Jesus?

- A. "Jesus is the one that everyone bows to as he walks by."
- B. "Jesus is the one with the new white suit and long shiny new shoes."
- C. "Jesus is easy to find. He walks around a lot and prays the loudest."
- D. "Jesus is the one with the thick gold necklaces and big rings on every finger."
- E. "Jesus is in the big black car. The license plate reads "MESSIAH THE PRINCE."
- F. "Jesus is the one I kiss." (Mark 14:44, Luke 22:47-48)

10. **Why do you think Judas betrayed Jesus with a kiss instead of giving the Romans a simple description of Jesus, like items A-D above?**

Suggested answer: Because there was nothing different in Jesus' looks or behaviour than everyone else.

- Isaiah 53:2 is believed to refer to Jesus. It reads "He had no form or majesty that we should look at Him, and no beauty that we should desire Him" (ESV).
- Luke 2:52 describes that as a boy Jesus had normal physical and social development, but nothing more.
- Luke 4:28-30 hints that Jesus could easily disappear into a crowd.

How does this compare to Ugandan's "prophets" and bishops? What does that say about them?

11. The Bible records who the most humble man on the earth was (at least at that time). **Who was it?**

Have someone read Numbers 12:3.

What were some events in Moses' life that brought him such humility?

Suggested answer: 40 years in the desert herding sheep after he had a royal life of luxury and privilege in Egypt.

12. Have someone read Philippians 3:3-8. **List the reasons Paul had to be full of pride. After deciding to follow Christ, how did he look at all those things? What became the most important thing to Paul?**

How then should we look at things we would normally take pride in like?

How then should we look at Christ?

13. End in prayer.

