



# The Most High God

## part 2

DANIEL 4

# Daniel ch.4 Background

- ▶ This passage has some interesting historical references as well as a strange medical condition.
- ▶ The roof top in v.29 was almost certainly the famous **Hanging Garden**. It is ironic that the greatest king of Babylon is eating grass like a goat at the most famous garden in human history.
- ▶ The condition of Nebuchadnezzar was rare, but there are actual recorded medical cases for such a thing. However, no matter if the cause is natural or supernatural it is the work of God (and foretold by God).



# The Danger of Pride

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Most high God

- ▶ This chapter is a letter of **confession**. It recorded how the king became a believer of the Most High God.
- ▶ His problem all along was his **pride**. But what is the problem with simply taking pride in the achievements or relationships that one can enjoy? (Eccl. 5:18-19)
- ▶ The problem is not giving the glory to God, and to acknowledge that we have NO kingdom of our own. We are only to manage His kingdom, under His dominion, according to His will, and to enjoy His blessings (Matt. 6:9-13).

# Your Hanging Garden

- ▶ Do you also have a Hanging Garden of **your** own? (a kingdom that **you** rule) note Dan. 4:30, Isa. 14:12-14
- ▶ Some people may be proud of their **achievement**
- ▶ Some people may be proud of their **relationship**
- ▶ Some people may be proud of their **children**
- ▶ Some people may be proud of their **status**
- ▶ No matter how high your gardens are hanging in the sky, it is NOT your kingdom. (Dan. 4:25, Psalm 47)



# Rejecting the Most High



- ▶ What if you **reject** God as your most high?
- ▶ In chapter 3 we have examined the **unhappiness** of longing to worship other gods or bowing to pressure to worship other gods but finding no joy in it (1 John 2:15, John 14:27).
- ▶ Sin always has its consequences, pride is no different:
- ▶ He had lost what it means to be human.
- ▶ He could no longer enjoy his wealth and power.
- ▶ Note: He did not stop **being** human or lose his power, he just lost the use of it and the joy of it. (Do you?)





# He Finally Understood...

- ▶ Even with the punishment we can see the goodness of God. Because at the end of the ordeal, the king finally understood God's sovereignty (4:16-17, 34-35).
- ▶ Through this ordeal he experienced God's **signs** and **wonders** (v.3). These experiences allowed the king to understand God's character.
- ▶ (v.3) He finally realized who is the actual king. (Kingdom and dominion, see Matt. 6:33)
- ▶ Are you willing to seek the kingdom of God?

# The Blessings of Humility

- ▶ Notice that the king was blessed because of his humility at the end:
- ▶ His **health** was restored
- ▶ His **reason** was restored
- ▶ His has found the **purpose** of his life
- ▶ His has found **happiness** and **peace**
- ▶ Just like in Matt. 6:33. Will you **pursue** the kingdom of God in your lives today?

