

Nebuchadnezzar's Dream of a Tree - [Daniel 4:1-37](#)

Topics: [Fear](#), [God](#), [Greatness](#), [Honor](#), [Insight](#), [Interpretation](#), [Miracles](#), [People](#), [Power](#), [Praise](#), [Prayer](#), [Pride](#), [Rewards](#), [Sin](#), [Warning](#)

Open It

1. *What is a dream that you vividly remember?
2. What would you say if someone asked you to describe your accomplishments?
3. What does the term "temporary insanity" mean to you?

Explore It

4. What were King Nebuchadnezzar's opening comments in his public decree? ([4:1-3](#))
5. Why did the king request a visit from the wise men? ([4:4-6](#))
6. What did the wise men fail to do? ([4:7](#))
7. Why did the king think that Daniel would be able to help him? ([4:8-9](#))
8. What were the visions that the king related to Daniel? ([4:10-18](#))
9. How did Daniel respond to the king's dream? ([4:19](#))
10. *What was the meaning of the tree in Nebuchadnezzar's dream? ([4:20-26](#))
11. How did Daniel conclude his exhortation? ([4:27](#))
12. *What happened to the king twelve months after the dream? ([4:28-33](#))
13. *What happened at the end of the king's illness? ([4:34-37](#))

Get It

14. When was the last time you talked about your faith with an unbelieving neighbor or coworker?
15. How has God most recently revealed Himself to you?
16. If you had to share some bad news with a friend, how would you do it?

17. What unique image or symbol, like King Nebuchadnezzar's tree, has great importance to you in your walk with God?
18. If someone in your family was diagnosed with a mental illness, how would you pray for him or her?
19. In what ways can our view of ourselves hinder our spiritual growth?
20. *When have you ignored what you felt was a warning from God about specific sinful behavior?
21. What recent insight about God has given your faith a boost?
22. How is God blessing you right now?
23. *What particular area of your life do you need to start giving over to God's power and control?

Apply It

24. To whom will you turn the next time you need wisdom from someone who knows and loves God?
25. What first step can you take to help someone you know who is in deep mental distress?
26. *With what prayer do you want to submit every area of your life to God?

4. Three times in this chapter God's purpose for giving the dream is repeated ([Daniel 4:17](#), [25](#), [32](#)). Why do you think God was so intent on impressing Nebuchadnezzar with his sovereign authority instead of his grace or his love?

5. If we accept [Daniel 4:17](#) as applicable today, then must we conclude that Adolf Hitler and Joseph Stalin came to power by God's decree? Explain.

If so, how does that challenge your perception of what God is and how he acts?

6. If Nebuchadnezzar had repented of his sins as Daniel advised, do you think God would have withheld his judgment, or was his, decision irrevocable at this point ([Daniel 4:24-27](#))? Explain.

7. What does the fact that God waited a full year between, the announcement of judgment and its actual fulfillment ([Daniel 4:29](#)) tell us?

8. What specific steps did God take to humble Nebuchadnezzar ([Daniel 4:31-33](#))?

9. What does Nebuchadnezzar's experience teach us about the dangers of pride?

10. A new Nebuchadnezzar came out on the other end of this experience. Instead of giving himself glory, he gives God glory ([Daniel 4:34-37](#)). Do you think he was simply forced into humility by God's iron fist, or was there a genuine change of attitude toward God? Explain.

11. Sometimes we gain fresh insight into God's character and ways as we wrestle with a hard aspect of God's truth. What is the hardest thing about this chapter for you to accept?

12. What does that hard lesson teach you about how God works in our lives to bring us to Christlikeness?