



Daniel 4:1-33

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Main Idea: Humility paves the way to care and courage in exile.

1. Think of a time when you were humbled. How did you feel? Did any good come from your experience?
2. Read Daniel 4:1-33. What does the text reveal to us about Nebuchadnezzar's journey to humility? What does it say to us about God that He was committed to take Nebuchadnezzar on that journey?
3. Discuss this quote from Kevin's sermon.
"If it is a test of our maturity how we deal with pride in ourselves, it is equally so when we have to handle pride, or its downfall, in others. The instinct for revenge is very strong. We long to see the arrogant and prosperous brought down a peg or three. But how do we react when they are? Then the true motives of our hearts are exposed. Then it will be seen whether we reflect a self-righteous rejoicing in another human being's frailty or a Christ-like sorrow over those who even betray and deny him." - Christopher Wright, The Message of Daniel, 99.
4. Jeremiah 29:7 *Also, seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have carried you into exile. Pray to the Lord for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper.* Kevin refers to these words from Jeremiah as Daniel's guide for his interactions while in exile.
 - A. What can we learn from this verse as we seek guidance from God while in exile?
 - B. What steps can we take to seek peace and prosperity in our city?

- C. What happens to our attitudes toward our enemies when we commit to pray for them?
5. Daniel called out Nebuchadnezzar to repent from his sins and his wickedness. Daniel called him to renounce them. What practical actions did he call Nebuchadnezzar to do? Why is added practical actions an important part of our repentance?
 6. Can you identify a space in your life where you need God to give you the courage of Daniel?
 7. How might God's Spirit be convicting you to repent and renounce so you can live out Jeremiah 29:7 in your own Babylon?
 8. As Nebuchadnezzar learned, what are the practical implications for our lives when we recognize and accept that, *"The Most High is truly sovereign over all the kingdoms on earth...and the kingdoms we are building in our lives?"*
 9. Kevin spoke of one being drenched in the dew of heaven when they are humbled by God's severe kindness and severe mercy. How might this truth give you peace? How might it guide your ministry in the marketplace?
 10. How does the power of community move each of us to a posture of repentance that leads to love and good works in our Babylon?