

You, the Election, and the Glory of God

Lesson One • Daniel 4:28-37

Trusting God On Election Day

The King Who Went Crazy:

(with a Lesson for Presidents and Us on Election Day)

The pathway of the pride of self to the praise of God must travel through the valley of HUMILIATION.

Three Stages of King Nebuchadnezzar's Story:

Stage 1: The PRIDE of SELF

All this came upon King Nebuchadnezzar. At the end of the twelve months he was walking about the royal palace of Babylon. The king spoke, saying, "Is not this great Babylon, that I have built for a royal dwelling by my mighty power and for the honor of my majesty?"

Daniel 4:28-30

The Essence of Pride:

Pride is the ENJOYMENT of self-sufficiency rather than God-sufficiency and self-exaltation rather than God-exaltation.

Stage 2: The VALLEY of Humiliation

While the word was still in the king's mouth, a voice fell from heaven: "King Nebuchadnezzar, to you it is spoken: the kingdom has departed from you! And they shall drive you from men, and your dwelling shall be with the beasts of the field. They shall make you eat grass like oxen...That very hour the word was fulfilled concerning Nebuchadnezzar; he was driven from men and ate grass like oxen; his body was wet with the dew of heaven till his hair had grown like eagles' feathers and his nails like birds' claws. Daniel 4:31-33

The Reason for the Valley of Humiliation:

God leads us to the valley of humiliation so we can FEEL the bestiality of pride and TASTE the bitter grass of its field.

Stage 3: The PRAISE of God

And at the end of the time I, Nebuchadnezzar, lifted my eyes to heaven, and my understanding returned to me; and I blessed the Most High and praised and honored Him who lives forever:

*For His dominion is an everlasting dominion,
And His kingdom is from generation to generation.
All the inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing;
He does according to His will in the army of heaven
And among the inhabitants of the earth.
No one can restrain His hand
Or say to Him, "What have You done?"*

Now I, Nebuchadnezzar, praise and extol and honor the King of heaven, all of whose works are truth, and His ways justice. And those who walk in pride He is able to put down.

Daniel 4:34-35, 37

Two Great Revolutions Take Place in the Valley of Humiliation:

One is an INTELLECTUAL revolution (how you think about God) and the other is an EMOTIONAL revolution (how you feel about God).

An Application to the Presidential Election:

God will CHOOSE the next President of the United States.

The Most High rules in the kingdom of men, and gives it to whomever He chooses. Daniel 4:32b

Two Things This Does Not Mean:

- It does not mean that you should not VOTE.
- It does not mean that God will APPROVE all the policies of the man who wins.

Two Things This Does Mean:

- It means that the Presidential winner should not BOAST, but should be humbled under the mighty hand of God.
- It means that you should take heart and be ENCOURAGED by the sovereignty of God in this election.

So When It Comes to the Election:

Vote WITHOUT HOPE in any one person and vote WITH HOPE in our sovereign God and His Son Jesus Christ!