

Resurrection Life of Jesus Church

TEACHING SERIES ON THE PROPHET DANIEL

RLJ-1060

JOHN S. TORELL

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PART 4: THE WATCHERS

THE FINAL BIBLICAL RECORD OF NEBUCHADNEZZAR

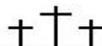
- This is one of the most interesting chapters in the Bible when it comes to information about God's angels and how God has set up His government over the creation.
- This is the last time King Nebuchadnezzar is mentioned in the book of Daniel. He reigned from 604 to 562 B.C., a total of 43 years. The Bible does not record his death; it only records the transfer of the kingdom to Belshazzar.
- In reading chapter four, it becomes clear that Daniel is quoting a chronicle written by Nebuchadnezzar, and distributed to the citizens of the Babylonian kingdom. This chronicle must have been written after the king had recovered from his mental illness. **Daniel 4:1-3**
- In his opening statement, Nebuchadnezzar gives glory to the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob; but it shows his limited understanding that there are no lesser gods, there is only one God, the Creator. Nebuchadnezzar devoted most of his life as a king to building altars of different gods all over the city of Babylon and was not able to see the conflict this caused with God Almighty.

MIXED WORSHIP

- About 100 years prior, the prophet Isaiah spoke out a strong message that there are no other gods, they just do not exist! **Isaiah 45:20-25, 46:9-13**
- Nebuchadnezzar, like so many other people who have lived on this earth, didn't grasp that man was sinful and in need of salvation. **Romans 3:1-18**
- They also didn't know there was going to be a final judgment where the people of that time who had not placed their faith in the coming messiah would be cast into the Lake of Fire. **Revelation 20:10-15**
- Therefore, according to them, serving all kind of gods was the only way of trying to obtain a good life on this earth; nothing was spoken about life after death, it was only about self-gratification here and now. **2 Timothy 3:1-7**

THE SECOND DREAM

- This time Nebuchadnezzar remembered the dream but he did not understand what it meant. **Daniel 4:4-5**
- We can see again the double mindedness in Nebuchadnezzar, instead of going straight to the God of creation, he turned again to the same wise men



and people in the occult who could not provide him with an answer to the first dream. The great miracle performed by God of his first dream was forgotten. **verses 6-7**

- ❑ Daniel was the last man to be called in before Nebuchadnezzar. The Holy Gods which Nebuchadnezzar was referring to is Elohim, as found in Genesis chapter one and in many other places in the Bible. **verse 8**
- ❑ The King addressed Daniel, using his Babylonian name. **verses 9-18**
- ❑ From these verses we learn that there are angels called “holy watchers” who are in charge of the political affairs over the nations of the world. The conclusion which I draw from this passage in the Bible is that they have been given authority to carry out God’s will and they sit in judgment on human political leaders. The law which they govern from is from the words spoken by Elohim and the holy watchers will enforce these laws on human rulers. This is in harmony with what the apostle Paul wrote. **Romans 13:1-7**
- ❑ Daniel became troubled once God revealed the dream to him. This time the dream was not beneficial to the king, but a hard warning. **verses 19-26**
- ❑ Daniel gave advice to Nebuchadnezzar to repent, seek the Lord and avoid this punishment. **verses 27**
- ❑ Nebuchadnezzar did not pay attention; he was set in his own ways and disregarded the interpretation by Daniel. **verses 28-30**
- ❑ God’s angels are not sentimental; when there is sin, people are warned, but if they do not pay attention to the warning, judgment will fall. **verses 31-33**
- ❑ Compare this with the warning of Paul. **Hebrews 10:26-31**
- ❑ God was merciful to Nebuchadnezzar, and after he had served his sentence, his mental capacity was returned unto him. **verse 34**
- ❑ Based upon the confession that Nebuchadnezzar spoke, he had once and for all understood that there was no other God than the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. He made a choice to serve the living God. **verses 35-37**

SUMMARY

Nebuchadnezzar was allowed to reign as a king for a short 43 years which included the time he was mentally ill and unable to govern. Where is he today? If he believed in the coming Messiah and repented of his sins, he is in heaven; if not, he is in hell waiting for his final judgment and an eternity in the Lake of Fire. It has now been some 2,500 years since Nebuchadnezzar died. He lived a mere 80 years or so on the earth, and now he has either been happy and praising God for 2,500 years, or he has screamed in hell! **Luke 16:19-24**

IF YOU WERE TO DIE TODAY, WHERE WOULD GOD’S ANGELS TAKE YOU, HEAVEN OR HELL?

DO YOU HAVE AN EAR TO HEAR WITH?