



CMC

Sabbath Service

Book of Daniel Part 3

CMC Conference Room

#11-15 CT Hub

Singapore 339407

14th (Sat) March 2020

3 pm to 5 pm

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Singapore Branch

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Acknowledgement and Thanks

*Teaching Material is taken from
The Book of Daniel - An exposition
by Kevin J Conner*

The King's Testimony – Dan 4:1-3

- The time of the next dream seems to be about 10 years after the fiery furnace
- It is about king Nebuchadnezzar's 34th year of reign. Chp 4 is mainly on king Nebuchadnezzar
- The king's declaration
 - God is the high God, the Most High above all the gods of Babylon and earth
 - God showed His signs and wonders that were great and mighty
 - God's kingdom is an everlasting kingdom – the Babylonian kingdom only lasted 70 years – Dan 2:44
- God's dominion is from generation to generation

The King's Tree-Dream – Dan 4:4-18

- The king was troubled by his dream – it was some bad omen coming
- This is the second dream God gave to the king to draw him away from pride
 - “For God may speak in one way, or in another,
Yet man does not perceive it.
In a dream, in a vision of the night,
When deep sleep falls upon men,
While slumbering on their beds,
Then He opens the ears of men,
And seals their instruction.
In order to turn man *from his* deed,
And conceal pride from man,” – Job 33:14-17
 - God has spoken once,
Twice I have heard this:
That power *belongs* to God. – Psa.62:11

Interpretation of the Dream – Dan 4:19-27

- The wise men of Babylon could not interpret the dream as they were not connected with the true God
- Daniel has a different spirit, the spirit of the holy God.
- The king saw Daniel was troubled as this dream was too personal
- Daniel wished this dream would be to those enemies and all who hated the king, but it was about the king
- This shows the Daniel who had served the king for many years has great respect of him.
- He counselled the king to be humble and do what is right and show mercy to the poor, so his prosperity could be extended

The Tree-Dream Parts – vs 10-18	The Interpretation – Vs 20-26
1. Tree in the midst of the earth	1. King Nebuchadnezzar is that Tree
2. Great heights to heaven	2. Height of Babylonian Kingdom
3. Breadth to ends of the earth	3. Strong, extent of the Empire in earth
4. Leaves and much fruit on it	4. Wealth, luxury, prosperity-Babylon
5. Beasts of field shelter under it	5. All nations under Babylon's rule
6. Fowls of heaven in boughs of it	6. Lesser nations under Babylon
7. All flesh fed by it	People, nations and languages fed
8. Watcher and holy One comes down from heaven	8. Holy Angels come down - the high heavens to earth
9. Tree cut down	9. Nebuchadnezzar deposed of throne
10. Branches cut off, leaves shaken, fruit scattered	10. Driven out - the beast of the earth, stripped of glory
11. Beasts and birds leave it	11. Servants of Kingdom leave him
12. Stump and roots left in the earth	12 Life not taken away
13. Band of iron and brass around it	13. Iron/brass – bound by Judgment
14. Stump - with the beasts in the dew and grass	14. King's sanity, though his life is spared
15. Heart if man exchanged for the heart of a beast	15. King lives, acts like field beast. Man becomes beast
16. Seven times to pass over it	16. Seven years pass over him
17. Kingdom restored in due time	17. Sanity returns, restored to throne when he acknowledged that God rules the heavens and earth

The Fulfillment – Dan 4:28-33

- Twelve months space to repent
 - “Because the sentence against an evil work is not executed speedily, therefore the heart of the sons of men is fully set in them to do evil.” – Eccles 8:11
 - “Beware that you do not forget the LORD your God by not keeping His commandments, His judgments, and His statutes which I command you today, lest—*when* you have eaten and are full, and have built beautiful houses and dwell *in them*; and *when* your herds and your flocks multiply, and your silver and your gold are multiplied, and all that you have is multiplied; **when your heart is lifted up**, and you forget the LORD your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage;” – Deut 8:11-14
 - “And I gave her time to repent of her sexual immorality, and she did not repent.” – Rev2:21

Why the King was not killed by his subjects

- King Nebuchadnezzar became insane. His subjects drove him out of his palace
- They did not kill him because they believed in Daniel's interpretation that the king will return after 7 years.
- Seven years was a long time to wait and see if the word was true, BUT the first part had so and surely the latter part would also. What about Yeshua's Second Return???
- Pride makes a man lower than a beast –
 - “For all that *is* in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—is not of the Father but is of the world.” 1 Jn 2:16

The Key Verse in Chapter 4

- ***“... till you know that the Most High rules in the kingdom of men, and gives it to whomever He chooses.” v17b, 25b, 32b***
- God is sovereign and rules from heaven over the kingdoms of men. He gives to whoever He wills – Matt 6:10
- A true understanding of the sovereignty of God is a good and proper foundation for genuine humility.
- Pride precede Divine judgment

End-Time Prophetic – Ultimate fulfillment in Rev 13

- Like Nebuchadnezzar, the Antichrist is the MAN who becomes THE BEAST. Compare Rev 13 with Dan 7
 - The beastly nature of man, outside of Christ, becomes lower than that of animals
- Like Nebuchadnezzar, fallen and restored, as the head of gold, the Beast has one of its heads wounded and revived. It is possible that this is restored Babylon in the end of the age
- Like Nebuchadnezzar, who was the beginning of the Times of the Gentiles, so Antichrist will consummate the end of the Times of the Gentiles
- Like Nebuchadnezzar, intellectual pride will be judged by madness and insanity on mankind in this end of the age
- Like Nebuchadnezzar, the False Prophet will set up an image for all to worship or receive the Mark, Number and Name of the Beast, which is 666

Lessons from Chapter 4

1. God is the Creator and He controls the affair of all mankind
2. Those who lift themselves up in pride, God is able to abase
3. The wisdom of this world is foolishness to God
4. God has His “Daniel” ready for every situation, who becomes His official interpreters
5. Every person and nation is given “space/time to repent”. If, at the end of that only God-known period of time, there is no repentance, then judgment falls
6. Intellectual pride is in reality intellectual insanity; it is a kind of mental madness
7. Self-deification causes men to become lower than the beast of the earth
8. All mankind will come to acknowledge that “the Most High rules” in the kingdoms of this world, and that the kingdom of God is the only true and everlasting kingdom

The Feast of Belshazzar – Dan:5:1-4

- This feast is to celebrate the glory of Babylon
- 1000 lords with their wives (each lord having at least 50 wives) – there were some 50,000 people present with a 3,200 piece orchestra
- In the midst of drunkenness, king Belshazzar made his greatest mistake to sacrilege the holy vessels
- If God would not allow His own people to touch the holy Ark of God (1 Sam 5-6), he would not let the Babylonians use His sacred vessels to mock Him as the true and only living God.
- Immediate judgment came

The Handwriting on the Wall – Dan 5:5-9

- The theme of “the finger of God” runs throughout the Scriptures
 - Is the accusing, convicting and condemning finger of God to the rebellious and prideful man
- 1. The finger of God wrote the 10 commandments (Ex 31:18; Deut 9:10)
 - The first two commandments are against the worship of others gods and/or making of images of gods to worship
- 2. It was the finger of Man, Yeshua who would later write on the ground the unknown writing that exposed the hypocrisy of the Pharisees and man over the adulterous woman (Jn 8:1-11). It was the finger of God in Christ
- 3. The finger of God is seen in the creation of the heavens, the sun, the moon and the stars (Psa 8:3)
- 4. It was the finger of the High Priest that sprinkled the blood seven times before the Lord and on the altar of incense (Ex 29:12; Lev 8:15, 9:9; 4:6,17,25, 30,34; 16:14, 18-19; Num 19:4). It points to our Lord Yeshua, as our Great High Priest and the shedding of His perfect blood to bring about full atonement for sin

The Finger of God ...

5. It was the finger of the High Priest that sprinkled the oil when the leper was cleansed. This oil was upon the blood, touching the right ear, thumb, and toe, as the leper was restored to fellowship in the camp of Israel (Lev 14:14-18). So Yeshua, our High Priest, cleanses us from sin and anoints us with the oil of the Holy Spirit as we are restored to fellowship with God and the saints
6. Yeshua identifies “**the finger of God**” as a symbolic of “**the Spirit of God**” (Luke 11:20, Matt 12:28). HE is the Spirit of conviction!

The Wise Men of Babylon

- Failed to interpret the Image-Dream (Dan2)
- Failed to interpret the Tree-Dream (Dan4)
- Failed to interpret the Unknown Writing (Dan5)

The wisdom of this world is utter foolishness before the God of infinite knowledge and wisdom (1Cor 1-2)

Fulfillment of Isaiah's prophecy given 100 years beforehand. Isaiah (47:1-15), the prophet speaks of Babylon's "enchantments, counsellors, astrologers and monthly prognosticators" (vs 9,12,13). None of them would be able to save Babylon in that day, because of her pride and self-sufficiency. Babylon has become the inhabitation of demons and unclean spirits.

The Wisdom of the Queen Mother – Dan 5:10-16

- Nebuchadnezzar's wife?
- The Queen-mother said of Daniel
 1. The Spirit of the Holy God is in Daniel
 2. “Light” in contrast to the darkness of Babylon’s wise men
 3. Understanding
 4. Wisdom as in the gods (vs 11,14)
 5. Nebuchadnezzar made Daniel the chief of the magicians, astrologers, Chaldeans and soothsayers.
 6. Excellent spirit
 7. Knowledge and understanding
 8. Interpreter of dreams
 9. Solving riddles and explaining enigmas (Read Prov 1:1-7)

The Wisdom of Daniel – Dan 5:17-24

- God sent His prophets to address, rebuke, reprove or encourage kings
 1. The prophet Nathan reproved King David (2Sam12)
 2. The prophet Elijah rebuked king Ahab (1Kg 18)
 3. The prophet Jeremiah reproved king Jehoiakim (Jer 36)
 4. The prophet Daniel here reproves the king of Babylon, Belshazzar
- Daniel was very bold before the king. He rebuked the king. It was a holy Spirit inspired convicting sermon to the king. It was a call to repent as his “space to repent” had come to an end (Jn 16:8-12; Rev 2:21)
- Daniel detailed the journey of conviction of the king’s grand-father and the space of repentance God had given to king Nebuchadnezzar. Although king Belshazzar “knew all this” yet he had lifted himself up in pride and self-exaltation.
- His acts were sacrilegious. He had
 1. Defiled the vessels of the house of God
 2. Praised the gods of materialistic values
 3. Not glorified the God of heaven
 4. Lifted himself up in pride against the God of heaven

The Interpretation of the Writing – Dan 5:25-29

Unknown Writing	Translation	Interpretation
Mene	Numbered or Counted out	Your kingdom is numbered
Mene	Numbered or Measured	Your kingdom is finished
Tekel	Weighed or Evaluated	You are weighed in the balances and found wanting
Upharsin (Peres)	Divided or Division	Your kingdom is divided and given to the Medes and Persians

Unknown Tongues

- The origin of nations began with Divine Judgment on the speech and tongues at the tower of Babel, that ends in confusion, the result of rebellion (Gen 10-11)
- In the Book of Acts, God reversed the judgment of Babel at Pentecost, as a sign of blessing upon all nations, as the 120 disciples spoke in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance (Acts 2:1-4)
- Throughout the Book of Acts, God gave the “sign” of speaking in tongues as the evidence of the reception of the Holy Spirit. (Acts 8,9, 10,11,18,19)

The Fall of Babylon – Dan 5:30-31

- Two years after the death of Nebuchadnezzar, war broke up between the Babylonians and the Medes
- Medes – Darius (Cyaxares) & his nephew Cyrus (from the Persian line)
- War continued for 20 years
- Belshazzar father king Nabonidus was leading the battle against the Medes and installed his son Belshazzar as the second ruler in his capital Babylon
- Cyrus in the third year of Belshazzar's reign laid siege to the impregnable walls of the city surrounded by a moat
- God had decreed over 175 years that Cyrus would enter Babylon through the brazen double gates (Isa 44:28-45:1-4)

The Reign of Darius

- King Darius was 62 years old when Babylon fell
- Cyrus was the founder of the Persian Empire. He took Babylon in BC538
- Dan 6:28 – Cyrus and Darius shared the kingdom. Cyrus was the supreme power and conqueror
- Darius was made a subordinate king under Cyrus.
- Cyrus gave the decree for the Jews to return to their land and to restore the city of Jerusalem and the temple of God
- Jeremiah prophesied the Babylonian captivity would end after 70 years (Jer 25:12-14)
- Read Isa13-14; Isa21; Isa47; Jer50-51. Much of these prophecies were fulfilled with some to be fulfilled at Yeshua's return (Rev 18:2)

The Prophecies relating to Cyrus

- Cyrus was named over 100 years before his birth
- He was called “**My shepherd, My anointed**”
- The word was spoken 175 years before fulfillment
- The decree would be three-fold
 - He shall build My city, Jerusalem
 - HE shall let the captives go free
 - He shall decree the Temple to be rebuilt, and the foundation to be laid (Isa 44:24-28; 45:1-6,13)
- The final fall of Babylon was prophesized in Rev 17-18

The Spirit of Babylon

- The writing is again on the wall for all of us to see
- Only God's people will know the Word of God, be filled with the Spirit, be watching and praying and keeping unspotted from the world (Jude 20,21)
- God has numbered the kingdoms of this world. He has finished the kingdoms of this world
- The kingdoms of this world will be judged and found wanting and will become the "kingdom of our Lord and His Christ" – Rev 11:15-19
- This Gospel of the Kingdom will be preached to all nation in all the world and then shall THE END come - Matt 24:14

The River of Babylon

- Mentioned in the Book of Revelation – the river Euphrates will dried up – Rev 16:12-21
- The drying of waters, by God has always been in connection with the deliverance of the people of God
 - The Red sea was dried up for the deliverance of Israel from Egyptian slavery
 - The River Jordan was dried up for Israel's deliverance from the wilderness wandering into the Promised Land
 - The River Euphrates was dried up in connection with the close of 70 years Babylonian Captivity, the release of Judah to their land and restoration of the city of God and the Temple of God
 - The River Euphrates is dried up in relation to the end-time Babylon, making ways for God's people to be delivered

Conclusion

- There will be end-time Babylon of feasting, revelry, idolatry and mockery of Divine things
- The “handwriting is on the wall” for us to see
- God continues to speak to His true Church in this Babylonian age. He speaks in signs and wonders of the hand, and the gift of the Spirit, including tongues and interpretation in its varied manifestation
- The world wisdom though increasing in the natural will be totally brought to naught when it comes to understanding Divine Words, words that originate from God
- Babylon signifying rebellion and confusion, is to fall once more and this fall is final and eternal
- The Kingdom of God will supersede all the kingdoms of this Babylonian world
- The Kingdom of God is like its King, It is a Kingdom of righteousness, peace, joy in the Holy Spirit (Rom 14:17 with Heb 7:1-2)

The Realm of Darius Dan 6:1-3

- Daniel is now 88 years old (BC537)
- It is God providential provision that Daniel remains in favor with the conqueror of Babylon
- Daniel has an excellent spirit
- Daniel was faithful, no fault found in him
- 120 Satraps (120 princes)
- Three governors of whom Daniel was one of them
- The king considered to make Daniel Head-governor
- Daniel became the Head-governor

Darius' Pride – Dan 6:4-9

- “Do you see a **man hasty** in his words?
There is more hope for a fool than for him.” – Prov 29:20
- The scheme was to appeal to king Darius' pride that his law is above even the laws of gods. The Persians like the Babylonians worship many gods
- No worship of any god for 30 days, the king was tricked into signing the decree which was really against “religious freedom”

The Pride of Life

- To be like God, a weakness in human nature since the fall of Adam and Eve
 - Lucifer sinned by self-will and his desire to be “like God” (Isa 14:12-14)
 - Adam and Eve sinned over the appeal to be “as gods” (Gen 3:1-6)
 - Pharaoh’s of Egypt were as “god” to the Egyptians
 - Nebuchadnezzar desired worship “as god” in his idol image (Dan3)
 - Roman emperors were worshipped “as gods” by the people. Herod Accepted worship when the people shouted. “It is the voice of a god, and not man.” He was truck dead and the worms ate him (acts12)
 - Antichrist is worshipped “as god” in this end of the age, and all who do not worship his image and receive his mark, name of numer 666 are to be killed (rev 12 and 2Thess 2:1-12)
 - All will worship CHRIST or the Antichrist
 - We are created to worship

What Did Daniel Do?

- He could rationalized as below:
 - Keep my window close so no one would see me praying. After all it is only for 30 days. Quote scripture to justify - Matt 6:5-6
 - God knows my heart, I will not kneel to pray, my bodily position does not matter to God
 - Pray one time a day instead of three times. Lesser chance of get caught
 - I will do a prayer walk instead. I will pray in my heart, no body will suspect I am prayer
- Daniel remains resolute in his prayer regime
- He knew when man's law violates God's higher and holy law, then it is better "to obey God rather than man" Acts 5:29

Daniel's Testimony

- “O king, live for ever. My GOD has sent His Angel and shut the lion’s mouths, that they have not hurt me.”
- “For He shall give His angels charge over you,
To keep you in all your ways.” – Ps 91:11
- “The angel of the LORD encamps all around those who fear Him,
And delivers them.” – Ps 34:7
- Daniel had no bruises by the fall, nor the lions hurt him – a miracle of God
- Daniel was preserved *in* the lion den and *not from it!*

The Law of Retribution

- “Give, and it will be given to you: good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over will be put into your bosom. For with the same measure that you use, it will be measured back to you” - Luke 6:38
- “Whoever digs a pit will fall into it,
And he who rolls a stone will have it roll back on him.” – Prov 26:27
- “Whoever causes the upright to go astray in an evil way,
He himself will fall into his own pit; But the blameless will inherit good.” – Prov 28:10
- “He who digs a pit will fall into it,
And whoever breaks through a wall will be bitten by a serpent.
He who quarries stones may be hurt by them,
And he who splits wood may be endangered by it.” – Eccles 10:8-9

Daniel Chapter 6

- “By faith ...quenched the violence fire ...” Heb 11:34 with Dan3
- “By faith ... stopped the mouth of lions ...” Heb 11:33 with Dan 6
- Daniel lived from the beginning of the Babylonian Captivity under Nebuchadnezzar through to Cyrus, and the end of this Captivity.
- King Darius died two years after he was made ruler of the Medes-Persia empire and succeeded by Cyrus, his nephew.
- The event of Dan 6 took place un these two years

Daniel – The Prophet of God	Yeshua – The Son of God –The WORD made flesh
1. Daniel – “God is my Judge”	1. Yeshua is the Judge of all
2. House of Judah	2. Of the Royal House of Judah
3. Spoken of as Son of Man	3. He is the Son of Man by incarnation
4. Called “Beloved and Desired”	4. He is God’s Beloved and Desired Son
5. A man of wisdom, understanding and knowledge	5. He is the wisdom, understanding and knowledge of God personified
6. Righteous, separated from Sin	6. Righteous One, separated from sinners
7. Persecuted, hated by jealous rulers	7. Persecuted, hated by religious leaders
8. Falsely accused and condemned	8. Falsely accused and condemned
9. Made intercession at evening sacrifice	9. Made intercession as our Sacrifice
10. Cast into the lion’s pit	10. Laid in Joseph’s tomb
11. Pit sealed with the king’s seal	11. Tomb stone sealed with seal of Rome
12. Angelic miraculous protection	12. Miraculous preservation of His body

Conclusion – What All Believers need to be

1. Have the character qualities of an excellent spirit and attitude, faultlessness and faithfulness
2. Have good relationship with God and this come through a continual daily life of prayer
3. When man's law violates God's higher laws, then we are to obey God rather than men and be ready to suffer the consequences
4. To overcome the fear of man and the fear of death, so we will not compromise our faith
5. God is able to save us from the fiery furnace or from the lion's den. He will either save from it or in and through it,
6. Have faith and trust God but also to allow for the "BUT if not..." of God and still not bow down to worship any man as God
7. All this happened through faith
8. It is better to die "in faith" (Heb 11:33-34), than to die "in unbelief" (Heb 3;16-19)
9. All evil workers will be judged according to their sin in the Judgment Day