

The Humbling of Nebuchadnezzar and the Sovereignty of God

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Date: September 22, 2026

Church: 16th Avenue Gospel Chapel

References: Daniel 4, Daniel 1:20; Daniel 2:47-48; Daniel 3:29; Daniel 5:1-6

Nebuchadnezzar's Dream of the Great Tree

Chapter four of Daniel is Nebuchadnezzar's testimony of what the Lord did in his life. Chapter four of Daniel, verse one:

但以理书第四章是尼布甲尼撒的见证，是主在他人生里做了什么。但以理书第四章第一节：

[Daniel 4:1 NKJV] - ¹ Nebuchadnezzar the king, To all peoples, nations, and languages that dwell in all the earth: Peace be multiplied to you.

尼布甲尼撒王对住在全地各民、各国、各语言的人说：“愿你们大享平安！”

[Daniel 4:2 NKJV] - ² I thought it good to declare the signs and wonders that the Most High God has worked for me.

我乐意将至高的神向我所行的神迹奇事宣扬出来。

Nebuchadnezzar said, "I would like to tell you what the Lord did for me. I think I had better write it down rather than just tell you." After he wrote the letter, he said, "Who should I send it to?" He sent it to every person in the then-known world. How many copies do you think he had to make of his testimony? Many millions. How many languages was it translated into? All the major spoken languages in his kingdom. Did he think his story was important? Yes, and he sent it to everybody who could read.

尼布甲尼撒说：“我要告诉你们，主在我人生里做了什么。我想我最好写下来，而不是仅仅告诉你们。”写了这封信以后，他说：“我应该送给谁呢？”他送给了当时他所知道的天下各地的每一个人。你认为他的这

个见证需要制作多少份副本呢？成百上千万份。它被翻译成了多少种语言呢？他王国里所有主要的官方语言。他认为自己的故事重要吗？是的，他把它发给了每一个识字的人。

[Daniel 4:3 NKJV] - ³ How great are His signs, And how mighty His wonders! His kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, And His dominion is from generation to generation.

他的神迹何等伟大！他的奇事何等大能！他的国是永远的，他的权柄存到万代！

How does he start out his story? By declaring how great and wonderful God is.

他的故事是怎么开始的呢？是以宣称神是多么伟大、多么奇妙开始的。

In verse four he says, "I am going to tell you my story now."

第四节他说：“我现在要跟你们讲我的故事了。”

[Daniel 4:4-5 NKJV] - ⁴ I, Nebuchadnezzar, was at rest in my house, and flourishing in my palace. ⁵ I saw a dream which made me afraid, and the thoughts on my bed and the visions of my head troubled me.

我尼布甲尼撒安居在宫中，平顺在殿内。我做了一个梦，使我惧怕。我在床上的思念并脑中的异象，使我惊惶。

Most of us have dreams, and the major relief is that when we wake up, we say, "I am sure glad that didn't happen in reality." Sometimes when I dream, I dream I am rich; I am disappointed when I realize that was just a dream. Sometimes I can run in my dream faster than I could run when I was in my prime; I wake up and say, "That is disappointing, I can't do that anymore." This dream was very significant. He knew it was significant; he did not understand it, but he knew it was significant.

我们大多数人都做过梦，醒来时最大的安慰莫过于对自己说：“我真庆幸那不是真的。”有时候我做梦，梦见自己很有钱；当我意识到那只是个梦时，我感到很失望。有时候在梦里，我跑得比我年轻力壮时还要快；醒来后我说：“真让人失望，我再也跑不了那么快了。”但这个梦非常重要。他知道这梦非同小可；他虽然不明白，但他知道这梦意义重大。

[Daniel 4:6 NKJV] - ⁶ Therefore I issued a decree to bring in all the wise men of Babylon before me, that they might make known to me the interpretation of the dream.

所以我降旨召巴比伦的一切哲士到我面前，叫他们把梦的讲解告诉我。

He had a dream. He can remember what it was, he just did not know what it meant, but he was sure it meant something.

他做了一个梦。他记得梦的内容，只是不知道是什么意思，但他确信这梦必有深意。

[Daniel 4:7 NKJV] - ⁷ Then the magicians, the astrologers, the Chaldeans, and the soothsayers came in, and I told them the dream; but they did not make known to me its interpretation.

于是那些术士、用法术的、迦勒底人、观兆的都进来，我将梦告诉了他们，他们却不能把梦的讲解告诉我。

[Daniel 4:8 NKJV] - ⁸ But at last Daniel came before me (his name is Belteshazzar, according to the name of my god; in him is the Spirit of the Holy God), and I told the dream before him, saying:

末后，那照我神的名称为伯提沙撒的但以理来到我面前，他里头有圣神的灵，我将梦告诉他说：

Many have asked the question: why did he not call in Daniel at first? Daniel was the only one in the kingdom who could make the first dream understood back in chapter two of Daniel. Why did he not just call in Daniel at the beginning? Some have suggested the reason was that he did not really want to have to admit that Daniel and Daniel's God was behind his dream.

很多人问过这样一个问题：他起初为什么不召但以理呢？在但以理书第二章里，但以理是全国唯一能够解明他第一个梦的人。为什么他一开始不直接召但以理来呢？有人认为，原因是他心里并不想承认但以理以及但以理的神掌管着他的梦。

It is true, isn't it? Many people in life know that God could solve their problem, but they try to do it themselves because they do not want to be responsible to God. But he realized that

the dream was very important, and he finally realized nobody else could solve the problem other than Daniel, so he called in Daniel.

确实是这样，不是吗？生活中许多人都知道神能解决他们的问题，但他们偏要靠自己，因为他们不想对神负责。但他意识到这个梦至关重要，最后发现除但以理之外无人能解决这个问题，所以他召来了但以理。

What does he say? Verse nine:

他说了什么呢？第九节：

[Daniel 4:9 NKJV] - ⁹ "Belteshazzar, chief of the magicians, because I know that the Spirit of the Holy God is in you, and no secret troubles you, explain to me the visions of my dream that I have seen, and its interpretation.

“术士的领袖伯提沙撒啊，因我知道你里头有圣神的灵，什么奥秘的事都不能使你为难，现在要把我梦中所见的异象和梦的讲解告诉我。

He calls him in and he says, "I am going to tell you my dream; you tell me what it means, please." Here is the dream now, verse ten:

他把他召来，说：“我要把我的梦告诉你，请你告诉我这是什么意思。”这是他所做的梦，第十节：

[Daniel 4:10-12 NKJV] - ¹⁰ "These were the visions of my head while on my bed: I was looking, and behold, A tree in the midst of the earth, And its height was great. ¹¹ The tree grew and became strong; Its height reached to the heavens, And it could be seen to the ends of all the earth. ¹² Its leaves were lovely, Its fruit abundant, And in it was food for all. The beasts of the field found shade under it, The birds of the heavens dwelt in its branches, And all flesh was fed from it.

“我在床上脑中的异象是这样：我看见地当中有一棵树，极其高大。那树渐长而且坚固，高得顶天，从地极都能看见，叶子华美，果子甚多，可作众生的食物。田野的走兽卧在荫下，天空的飞鸟宿在枝上，凡有血气的都从这树得食。

That sounds like a nice dream.

这听起来像是一个美梦。

[Daniel 4:13 NKJV] - ¹³ "I saw in the visions of my head while on my bed, and there was a watcher, a holy one, coming down from heaven.

“我在床上脑中的异象，见有一位守望的圣者从天而降，

What is coming now is a message from heaven. That probably scared him.

接下来临到的是从天而来的信息。这大概让他吓了一跳。

[Daniel 4:14 NKJV] - ¹⁴ He cried aloud and said thus: "Chop down the tree and cut off its branches, Strip off its leaves and scatter its fruit. Let the beasts get out from under it, And the birds from its branches.

大声呼叫说：‘伐倒这树！砍下枝子！摇掉叶子！抛散果子！使走兽离开树下，飞鸟躲开树枝。

Now it sounds like it is going to be a scary dream.

现在听起来像是一个可怕的噩梦了。

[Daniel 4:15 NKJV] - ¹⁵ Nevertheless leave the stump and roots in the earth, Bound with a band of iron and bronze, In the tender grass of the field. Let it be wet with the dew of heaven, And let him graze with the beasts On the grass of the earth.

树不墩却要留在地内，用铁圈和铜圈箍住，在田野的青草中让天露滴湿，使他与地上的兽一同吃草，

And this watcher keeps on talking:

这位守望者继续宣告：

[Daniel 4:16 NKJV] - ¹⁶ Let his heart be changed from that of a man, Let him be given the heart of a beast, And let seven times pass over him.

使他的心改变，不如人心，给他一个兽心，使他经过七期。

Now, this story is all about a tree, but verse sixteen says, "Let his heart be changed from that of a man." The tree is like a man. "Let him be given the heart of a beast." You can imagine

that having dreamt this, Nebuchadnezzar says, "I think there is something very significant here. This tree is a man."

这个异象本来全是关于一棵树的，但第十六节却说：“使他的心改变，不如人心。”这棵树指的就是一个人。“给他一个兽心。”你可以想象，做完这个梦后，尼布甲尼撒心想：“这里面必有极重大的意义。这棵树指的就是一个人。”

[Daniel 4:17 NKJV] - ¹⁷ "This decision is by the decree of the watchers, And the sentence by the word of the holy ones, In order that the living may know That the Most High rules in the kingdom of men, Gives it to whomever He will, And sets over it the lowest of men.'

“‘这是守望者所发的命，圣者所出的令，好叫世人知道至高者在人的国中掌权，要将国赐与谁就赐与谁，或立极卑微的人执掌国权。’

Whoever these watchers are, they are from heaven, they are powerful, and they have made a decision regarding this tree. You can imagine that this is a pretty serious dream. He remembers it; he remembers the detail, and he remembers that the watcher from heaven has made a conclusion regarding that dream. His summary conclusion to Daniel in verse eighteen is:

不管这些守望者是谁，他们来自天上，大有权柄，并且已经对这棵树作出了判决。你可以想象这是一个非常严肃的梦。他记得清清楚楚；他记得每一个细节，也记得天上的守望者对这个梦作出的定论。他在第十八节对但以理总结道：

[Daniel 4:18 NKJV] - ¹⁸ "This dream I, King Nebuchadnezzar, have seen. Now you, Belteshazzar, declare its interpretation, since all the wise men of my kingdom are not able to make known to me the interpretation; but you are able, for the Spirit of the Holy God is in you."

“这是我尼布甲尼撒王所做的梦。伯提沙撒啊，你要说明这梦的讲解；因为我国中的一切哲士都不能将梦的讲解告诉我，惟独你能，因你里头有圣神的灵。”

Daniel Interprets the Dream

Interestingly, this is Nebuchadnezzar telling his own story. He is saying, "Daniel, I saw this troubled dream. Could you please tell me what it means?" You can see the two of them

sitting in the throne room. Nebuchadnezzar tells Daniel the dream, and then Nebuchadnezzar watches.

很有意思的是，这是尼布甲尼撒在亲自叙述自己的故事。他在说：“但以理，我做了这个令人不安的梦。请你告诉我这是什么意思好吗？”你可以看见他们两个人坐在王宫大殿里。尼布甲尼撒把梦告诉了但以理，然后注视着但以理。

[Daniel 4:19 NKJV] - ¹⁹ Then Daniel, whose name was Belteshazzar, was astonished for a time, and his thoughts troubled him. So the king spoke, and said, "Belteshazzar, do not let the dream or its interpretation trouble you." Belteshazzar answered and said, "My lord, may the dream concern those who hate you, and its interpretation concern your enemies!"

于是称为伯提沙撒的但以理惊讶片刻，心意惊惶。王说：“伯提沙撒，不要因梦和梦的讲解惊惶。”伯提沙撒回答说：“我主啊，愿这梦归与恨恶你的人，讲解归与你的敌人！”

He said, "This is a terrible dream." As he pondered it for a time, Nebuchadnezzar was watching and waiting and waiting and waiting for the interpretation. Daniel was very slow in giving it. With the introduction of verse nineteen, he goes on and tells the story.

但以理心想：“这是一个可怕的梦。”当他沉思良久时，尼布甲尼撒注视着他，等了又等，急切盼望听到解说。但以理迟迟难以开口。在第十九节的引言之后，他继续解释这个异象。

[Daniel 4:20-22 NKJV] - ²⁰ "The tree that you saw, which grew and became strong, whose height reached to the heavens and which could be seen by all the earth, ²¹ whose leaves were lovely and its fruit abundant, in which was food for all, under which the beasts of the field dwelt, and in whose branches the birds of the heaven had their home-- ²² it is you, O king, who have grown and become strong; for your greatness has grown and reaches to the heavens, and your dominion to the end of the earth.

“你所见的树渐长而且坚固，高得顶天，从地极都能看见，叶子华美，果子甚多，可作众生的食物；田野的走兽住在其下，天空的飞鸟宿在枝上。王啊，这渐长又坚固的树就是你。你的威势渐长及天，你的权柄管到地极。

"The tree is you, O king." Was Nebuchadnezzar great? Yes, everything that was said about that tree was magnificent. The whole world benefited from that tree. Nebuchadnezzar was

that powerful man, and his influence was all over the world. Daniel acknowledges this: "It is you, O king, who have grown and become strong."

“王啊，这棵树就是你。”尼布甲尼撒伟大吗？是的，关于那棵树的一切描述都是极其宏伟的。整个世界都从这棵树得益。尼布甲尼撒就是那个大有能力的人，他的威名遍及天下。但以理承认了这一点：“王啊，这渐长又坚固的树就是你。”

[Daniel 4:23 NKJV] - ²³ "And inasmuch as the king saw a watcher, a holy one, coming down from heaven and saying, "Chop down the tree and destroy it, but leave its stump and roots in the earth, bound with a band of iron and bronze in the tender grass of the field; let it be wet with the dew of heaven, and let him graze with the beasts of the field, till seven times pass over him";

“王既看见一位守望的圣者从天而降，说：‘将这树砍伐毁坏，树不墩却要留在地内，用铁圈和铜圈箍住；在田野的青草中，让天露滴湿，使他与地上的兽一同吃草，直到经过七期。’

You can understand why Nebuchadnezzar was concerned, and Daniel was very concerned in answering him. Daniel had to answer him and tell the truth. He was probably willing to do that because he highly respected this king, but this king was a fickle king and he could have caused anybody to be put to death in a moment. Daniel probably thought, "Do I tell him the truth? I may very well lose my head; he may kill me if I tell him the truth." But he did tell him the truth in a most respectful way.

你可以理解为什么尼布甲尼撒惶恐不安，而但以理在回答他时也极其忧心。但以理必须回答他并道出真相。他愿意这样做，是因为他非常敬重这位王；但这位王喜怒无常，瞬息之间就能将任何人处死。但以理心里可能在想：“我要告诉他实情吗？如果我直言相告，很可能会人头落地，他可能会杀了我。”但他确实说了真话，而且是以一种极其尊重的方式说的。

The Christian is required to give honor to the king, even if they are not very good. We are not to speak evil of the rulers of our people.

基督徒被要求应当尊敬君王，即便他们不是贤君良主。我们不可开口毁谤百姓的官长。

[Daniel 4:24 NKJV] - ²⁴ this is the interpretation, O king, and this is the decree of the Most High, which has come upon my lord the king:

“王啊，讲解就是这样：临到我主我王的事是出于至高者的命。

[Daniel 4:25 NKJV] - ²⁵ They shall drive you from men, your dwelling shall be with the beasts of the field, and they shall make you eat grass like oxen. They shall wet you with the dew of heaven, and seven times shall pass over you, till you know that the Most High rules in the kingdom of men, and gives it to whomever He chooses.

你必被赶出离开世人，与野地的兽同居，吃草如牛，被天露滴湿，且要经过七期，等你知道至高者在人的国中掌权，要将国赐与谁就赐与谁。

The question in this context is: who are the "they"? The answer is: they are the watchers, the agents of heaven who are sent to deal with this issue. This is what is going to happen to you, King Nebuchadnezzar.

在上下文里的一个问题是：“他们”是谁？答案是：他们就是那些守望者，是奉差遣来处理这件事的天使天军。尼布甲尼撒王啊，这就是将要临到你身上的事。

What is the central sin of the world of our day? They refuse to acknowledge that the Most High God is ruling over the kingdoms of men. They say, "I don't really care. I can do pretty much what I want; God is not going to interfere." Sometimes, even when God speaks to them and reveals the truth to them, it takes a long time for them to acknowledge it. How long did it take Nebuchadnezzar to realize this? Seven times were going to pass over—probably seven years would pass.

当今世人的核心罪恶是什么？就是他们拒绝承认至高的神在世人的国中掌权。他们说：“我不在乎。我想干什么就干什么，神不会干涉的。”有时候，即使神对他们说话，向他们显明真理，他们也要经过很长的时间才会承认。尼布甲尼撒花了多久才明白这一点呢？要经过七期——很可能就是七年的光阴。

[Daniel 4:26 NKJV] - ²⁶ "And inasmuch as they gave the command to leave the stump and roots of the tree, your kingdom shall be assured to you, after you come to know that Heaven rules.

“守望者既吩咐存留树不墩，等你知道诸天掌权，你的国必定归你。

That is the interpretation of the dream. In verse twenty-seven, we see the counsel of Daniel regarding that interpretation. Remember, Daniel was the right-hand man to this king. He did what the king commanded, and on many former occasions no doubt he had said to the king, "That is not a good idea, king; I wouldn't do that."

这就是那梦的讲解。在第二十七节，我们看到但以理针对这个讲解所献上的忠告。请记住，但以理是这位王的得力臂膀。他遵从王的命令；毫无疑问，在以往的许多场合中，他曾对王说：“王啊，这不是个好主意，我绝不会那样做。”

[Daniel 4:27 NKJV] - ²⁷ Therefore, O king, let my advice be acceptable to you; break off your sins by being righteous, and your iniquities by showing mercy to the poor. Perhaps there may be a lengthening of your prosperity."

王啊，求你悦纳我的谏言，以施行公义断绝罪过，以怜悯穷人除掉罪孽，或者你的平安可以延长。”

After God has spoken to you, what is the imperative? **Break off your sins.** If you were to break off your sins as soon as you were rebuked, what would the result be? There would be a lengthening of your prosperity rather than a lengthening of your punishment.

当神对你说了话之后，当务之急是什么？**断绝罪过**。如果你在受到责备的那一刻就立刻断绝罪过，结果会怎样呢？你的平安将会延长，而不是你的刑罚被延长。

Does that sound like good advice to you? If you were Nebuchadnezzar, what would you have done? You would say, "That is a pretty certain warning. I think I'd better smarten up. I'd better change my ways. I'd better acknowledge that God is God and I'm just a puppet king."

这对你来说听起来是个好建议吗？如果你是尼布甲尼撒，你会怎么做？你会说：“这是一个极其确凿的警告。我想我最好放聪明点，最好改过自新，最好承认神才是神，而我不过是一个微不足道的王。”

The Fall and Restoration of the King

[Daniel 4:28 NKJV] - ²⁸ All this came upon King Nebuchadnezzar.

这事都临到尼布甲尼撒王。

If God has said it in the Bible, what is going to come next? The fulfillment of everything He said in the Bible. When you and I get to the end of life, when others get to the end of life, what are they going to say? They are going to say, "Everything the Bible said about me, everything that God said to me privately about me, it all came to pass. If I had heeded it immediately, the punishment that befell would be far less."

如果神在圣经里说了，接下来会发生什么？圣经所说的一切都必成就。当你我走到生命的尽头，当世人走到人生的终点时，他们会说什么呢？他们必会说：“圣经关于我所说的一切，神私下对我所说的一切，全都应验了。要是我当初立刻听从，临到身上的刑罚就会轻得多了。”

What is Nebuchadnezzar going to do? He probably went to bed that night kind of scared. He woke up in the morning, and nothing happened. He went to bed the next night; he wasn't quite as scared. He woke up in the morning, and still nothing happened. Do you think it is possible that he said, "It just may not happen. That was a warning, a good warning, but I am not that bad, and it is not going to happen; everything is okay"? Do you think he had trouble sleeping eleven months later? No, I think he said, "I have forgotten the whole thing. I think God has forgotten the whole thing, too. Everything is okay, I'm alright."

尼布甲尼撒是怎么做的呢？那天晚上他上床睡觉时可能战战兢兢。第二天早晨醒来，什么事也没发生。第二天晚上他去睡觉，就没那么害怕了；早晨醒来，依然风平浪静。你认为他有没有可能对自己说：“这事未必会发生。那不过是个警告，一个善意的警告罢了；我又没那么坏，灾祸不会临头的，一切都好好的”？你认为十一个月之后他还会失眠吗？不，我想他会说：“我早就把那事忘得一干二净了。我想神也早就抛到九霄云外去了。一切都太平无事，我好得很。”

[Daniel 4:29-30 NKJV] - ²⁹ At the end of the twelve months he was walking about the royal palace of Babylon. ³⁰ 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?"

过了十二个月，他游行在巴比伦王宫里。他说：“这大巴比伦不是我用大能大力建为京都，要显我威严的荣耀吗？”

Who gets the glory in verse thirty? Nebuchadnezzar. He is basically saying, "I'm a pretty good guy. I built this Babylon. I built it for my royal dwelling. I built it by my mighty power, for the honor of my majesty." Is that what the dream taught him? No. Was he worried about what the dream taught him at this point? He knew what the dream had taught him; it was only twelve months ago, but he just did not worry about it.

在第三十节里，谁得到了荣耀？尼布甲尼撒。他基本上是在说：“我真是一个了不起的人。我建造了这巴比伦。我建它是为了我王家的住处；我是凭我的大能大力建成的，是为了彰显我威严的荣耀。”梦是这样教导他的吗？不。此时此刻他还在意梦中的教训吗？他明明知道梦告诫了他什么，那不过才过去十二个月，但他完全不放在心上了。

[Daniel 4:31 NKJV] - ³¹ 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!"

这话在王口中尚未说完，有声音从天降下，说：“尼布甲尼撒王啊，有话对你说：你的国位离开你了！”

When does God periodically speak to you? Immediately after you did something you knew you shouldn't do. You can get away with it for twelve months; you can get away with it for twelve years; you can get away with it for a whole lot longer. Then you do it again, and down comes the hand of God. Why does God often respond that way? So that you and I will know that it is God speaking, not some weird idea, so you know that God is speaking. It will happen with good things; it will happen with bad things.

神往往在什么时候对你说话？就在你刚做了一件明明知道不该做的事情之后。你可能侥幸逃过了十二个月；你可能侥幸逃过了十二年；你甚至可能逃过了更长的时间。但当你故态复萌时，神的管教之手骤然降临。神为什么常常以这种方式回应呢？为要叫你清清楚楚地知道，这是神在说话，绝非什么无稽之谈或凭空妄想，乃是神亲自向你发声。在好事上是这样，在坏事上也是这样。

Can you think of a time in your life when God confirmed the truth of the Bible through an experience of life that you know was God speaking to you? If you are like me, you are going to have to say, "Yes, I remember that time in my life. That is what happened. There is no way I can say it was coincidence. I knew God spoke to me."

你能否想起在你的人生中，有哪一刻神借着生活中的一次经历证实了圣经的真理，使你切切实实知道那是神在对你说话？如果你像我一样，你不得不承认说：“是的，我记得我生命中的那一刻。事实就是如此。我绝不能说那是巧合。我知道那是神在对我说话。”

Why do we believe the Bible anyway?

1. Because of all the facts that are in the Bible.
2. All the confirmation of those facts that are in all of history.
3. The fact that God arranged that circumstance in such a way that you knew God was speaking to you.

我们究竟为什么相信圣经？第一，因为圣经中所记载的一切确凿事实。第二，因为整个人类历史对这些事实的一切印证。第三，因为神以奇妙的方式安排了那些经历，使你确知是神在亲自对你说话。

I will tell you one of my stories that I have told you before. It went like this: when I was a little boy, I went to school, and frankly, I didn't really enjoy that. The teacher said, "One day we are going to make a jack-in-the-box." I thought, "That is going to be fun. A lot of other

stuff we do at school isn't fun, but that is going to be fun. I want to make a jack-in-the-box." We went on for months, and we never did make a jack-in-the-box.

我要给你们讲一个我以前讲过的亲身经历。事情是这样的：当我还是个小男孩上小学的时候，坦白讲，我并不喜欢上学。老师曾说：“有一天我们要亲手做一个‘盒中玩偶’（小丑跳盒）。”我想：“那一定很有趣。我们在学校做的很多其他事都很无聊，但这肯定好玩。我真想做一个盒中玩偶。”可几个月过去了，我们一直没做。

One day—I had never done it before nor since—in grade one, I came home for lunch and I said to my mother, "I don't want to go back to school this afternoon."

She said, "Why?"

I said, "Because I don't want to go."

She said, "Are you sick?"

I said, "No."

"Is the teacher mad at you?"

"No."

"Are you mad at the teacher?"

"No."

She said, "Why don't you want to go to school?"

I said, "Because I don't want to go to school this afternoon."

For some reason that I cannot explain to this day, my mother said, "All right, stay home."

有一天——在那之前我从未这样做过，在那之后也绝无仅有——读一年级的我中午回家吃午饭，我对母亲说：“今天下午我不想回学校了。”她问：“为什么？”我说：“因为我就是不想去。”她问：“你生病了吗？”我说：“没有。”“老师冲你发脾气了吗？”“没有。”“你生老师的气了吗？”“没有。”她说：“那你为什么不想去上学呢？”我说：“因为我今天下午就是不想去上学。”出于某种我至今都无法解释的原因，我母亲竟然说：“好吧，那就留在家里吧。”

What was the end of the story? Everybody in our class made a jack-in-the-box that afternoon! What did I say the next morning? I said, "That was God, you know. That isn't coincidence. That was God speaking to you, Harold." Nobody had to explain that to me. I didn't have to go and read twenty pages in the Bible to find the answer. God had spoken to me by His timing.

故事的结局如何呢？那天下午，全班所有同学都在学校做了一个盒中玩偶！第二天早晨我心里说了什么？我说：“你知道吗，那是神。那绝非巧合。那是神在对你说话，哈罗德。”没有人需要向我解释这一点。我不需要翻阅二十页圣经去寻找答案。神按照祂的时间向我说了话。

Look at verse thirty-one again:

再来看第三十一节：

[Daniel 4:31 NKJV] - ³¹ 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!"

这话在王口中尚未说完，有声音从天降下，说：“尼布甲尼撒王啊，有话对你说：你的国位离开你了！

Did he know God had spoken at that time for that reason? Yes. What should you do under those circumstances? You should say, "Lord, I am going to follow You. I am not going to do that again."

他知道神是在那个时刻、因着那个缘故向他说话吗？是的。在那种情况下你应该怎么做？你应该说：“主啊，我要跟从祢，我再也不敢那样行了。”

I gave you that illustration again because it is hard to deny, but it is also easy to forget. If I were to go around this circle now and say, "Has there ever been an experience like that in your life where you did something you knew you should not do, and instead of waiting for five years, God struck immediately?" You thought, "Oh, that was God."

我再次向大家举这个例子，是因为它让人难以否认，却又极易被忘却。如果我现在环顾在座的各位，问道：“在你的生命中，是否也有过类似的经历——你做了一件深知不该做的事，神没有等上五年，而是立刻施加管教？”你心里猛然一惊：“噢，那是神！”

By the way, I should remind you: we never did make a jack-in-the-box in school ever again!

顺便提醒你们一句：后来在学校里，我们再也没有做过盒中玩偶！

[Daniel 4:32 NKJV] - ³² 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; and seven times shall pass over you, until you know that the Most High rules in the kingdom of men, and gives it to whomever He chooses."

你必被赶出离开世人，与野地的兽同居，吃草如牛，且要经过七期，等你知道至高者在人的国中掌权，要将国赐与谁就赐与谁。”

[Daniel 4:33 NKJV] - ³³ 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.

当时这话就应验在尼布甲尼撒的身上，他被赶出离开世人，吃草如牛，身被天露滴湿，头发长长，好像鹰毛，指甲长长，如同鸟爪。

That very hour, the word was fulfilled concerning Nebuchadnezzar. He was driven from men; he ate grass like oxen. He didn't pretend it was grass; he went out into the field. They may very well have built a fence around him, but he ate grass. His body was wet with the dew of heaven. He didn't stay where they put him under shelter; he went out into the wild somehow, and the dew of heaven was wet upon him.

就在那一刻，关于尼布甲尼撒的预言应验了。他被赶出离开世人，吃草如牛。他不是假装在吃草，而是真的流落荒野吃草。人们很可能在他周围筑起了围栏，但他在那里大嚼青草。他的身体被天露滴湿。他没有待在遮蔽之所，而是不知怎地流落野外，任凭天露浸湿全身。

His hair grew like eagles' feathers. You can hardly imagine that. When he took his shirt off—he probably didn't have a shirt on—it was grown like eagles' feathers, and his nails were like birds' claws.

他的头发长长如同鹰毛。你简直难以想象那番景象。如果脱掉他的上衣——他身上大概根本连件衣服都没有——满身毛发蓬乱如鹰的羽毛，指甲长得如同猛禽的尖爪。

You can imagine his sons, his daughters, his grandchildren saying, "Daddy, can we go see grandpa?" They take them out to see grandpa, and the grandson says, "Daddy, is that really our grandpa? He is supposed to be king of the world. What is he doing out here in the field?"

你可以想象他的儿子、女儿和孙子们说：“爸爸，我们能去看看爷爷吗？”他们带孩子们去看爷爷，孙子问道：“爸爸，那真的是我们的爷爷吗？他本该是天下的君王啊，他在这野地里做什么呢？”

How long was he like that? Till seven times—or seven years—passed over him. Why do you think it took seven years for him to come to his senses? Do you think he was proud? Do you think he was stubborn? Do you think he might even have said, "I can outfox God"? Do you

think he kept looking around saying, "I built all this. I know I am a crazy man, but I built all this"?

他像那样生活了多久？直到七期——也就是七年——过去。你认为为什么花了他整整七年时间才清醒过来？你觉得他骄傲吗？你觉得他固执吗？你觉得他甚至可能狂妄地想：“我能斗得过神”吗？你觉得他是否还在环顾四周心想：“这一切都是我造的。我知道我现在像个疯子，但这宏图伟业全是我建的”？

[Daniel 4:34-35 NKJV] - ³⁴ 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. ³⁵ 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?"

日子满足，我尼布甲尼撒举目望天，我的聪明归我，我便称颂至高者，赞美尊敬活到永远的神。他的权柄是永远的，他的国度存到万代。世上所有的居民都算为虚无；在天上的万军和世上的居民中，他都凭自己的意旨行事。无人能拦住他手，或问他说：“你做什么呢？”

Why was it that he lost his understanding? Pride had confused his understanding. You know, there are an awful lot of smart people who do dumb things. There are a lot of people who do bad things, and sometimes they are not even smart enough to acknowledge that they are wrong. Very often when you speak to people like this, they change the conversation, or they say, "I will do this tomorrow," or "I am not sure." Frankly, their understanding is such that they are refusing to come to grips with the issue.

他当初为什么丧失了理智？是骄傲蒙蔽了他的心智。要知道，世上有许多绝顶聪明的人却净做蠢事。有许多人做了许多恶事，有时甚至连承认自己做错了的自知之明都没有。通常当你与这样的人谈话时，他们要么转移话题，要么推诿说：“我明天再处理吧，”或者“我拿不准。”坦白讲，他们的心智已经昏昧到了拒绝正视根本问题的地步。

Nebuchadnezzar says, "I blessed the Most High, and praised and honored Him who lives forever." My understanding finally returned. I finally said to myself, "You're crazy, Nebuchadnezzar. You had better bless the Most High and praise Him."

尼布甲尼撒说：“我便称颂至高者，赞美尊敬活到永远的神。”我的理智终于复归了。我终于对自己说：“尼布甲尼撒，你真是疯了！你最好赶快称颂赞美至高者。”

His dominion is an everlasting dominion. How long is God King for? Forever. How long was Nebuchadnezzar king for? A few years. Even the prophecy that he heard in Daniel chapter two says that his kingdom of gold is soon going to be replaced by another kingdom. His kingdom is not forever. How long is God's kingdom for? Forever.

祂的权柄是永远的权柄。神作王要多久？永远！尼布甲尼撒作王能有多久？区区数年而已。甚至在但以理书第二章的预言中就已经告诉他，他那金头的王国很快就会被另一个王国所取代。他的王国绝不可能存到永远。神的国度能存多久呢？直到永永远远！

Tell me the story about the king who said, "My kingdom is going to last..." and he gave a large number of years. Who was that king? Tell us.

请告诉我那个夸口说“我的王国将延续……”并定下漫长岁月的君王的故事。那是哪位帝王？请讲。

Qin Shi Huang recorded in history! He said, "I am the First Emperor; beginning from me, my dynasty shall endure for ten thousand generations." The result? As soon as Qin Shi Huang died, his son Hu Hai ruled for only a few years, and the Qin Dynasty was overthrown by the Han.

（会众答：史书上记载的秦始皇！他说：“朕为始皇帝，后世以计数，二世三世至于万世，传之无穷。”结果呢？秦始皇一死，他儿子胡亥在位没几年，大秦江山就被汉朝推翻了。）

How long did he say it was going to last? Ten thousand generations! How long did it last? A dozen years. He made a big mistake; I wouldn't hire him as a mathematician!

他夸口说要传多久？万世！实际上延续了多久？短短十几年。他犯了个天大的计算错误，我绝不会雇他来当数学家！

God's kingdom is an everlasting dominion. His kingdom is from generation to generation. All the inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing. Who are all the inhabitants of the earth? Everybody alive, including King Nebuchadnezzar; he is reputed as nothing, too.

神的国度是永远的权柄，祂的国存到万代。世上所有的居民都算为虚无。世上所有的居民包括谁？凡活在世上的每一个人，包括尼布甲尼撒王在内；他也同样算为虚无。

Did he learn his lesson? Yes. Did it happen just like he had been told it would happen? Yes.

他吸取教训了吗？吸取了。事情的发生是否正如事先向他宣告的那样？是的。

[Daniel 4:36 NKJV] - ³⁶ At the same time my reason returned to me, and for the glory of my kingdom, my honor and splendor returned to me. My counselors and

nobles resorted to me, I was restored to my kingdom, and excellent majesty was added to me.

那时，我的聪明归我，为我国的荣耀、威严和光耀也都归我，并且我的谋士和大臣也来朝见我。我又得建立在我国中，加增我极大的势力。

He says, "At the same time my reason returned to me." Is that a miracle? Yes. He did not have reason for all those years. Finally, when he was humbled enough to say, "I am a sinner and God is right," God gave him his reason back.

他说：“那时，我的聪明归我。”这是一个神迹吗？是的！整整七年之久他毫无理智。最终，当他彻底降卑并承认“我是个罪人，神是公义的”那一刻，神便将理智赐还给他。

What is God's attitude toward us? He wants to teach us what we should know, and then the result will be that He will do better for us afterwards than He did before.

神对我们的态度是怎样的？祂渴望教导我们所当晓得的真理；只要我们悔改回应，祂随后赐给我们的恩惠，必远远胜过以往。

[Daniel 4:37 NKJV] - ³⁷ 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.

现在我尼布甲尼撒赞美、尊崇、恭敬天上的王；因为他所做的全都诚实，他所行的也都公平。那行动骄傲的，他能降为卑。

He says, "And if you don't believe me, read the letter again!"

他仿佛在说：“如果你们不信我所言，就把这封亲笔信再读一遍！”

It is a very interesting story. What is the conclusion? "God, You are good, You are God, and I honor You."

这是一个扣人心弦的故事。它的结论是什么？“神啊，祢是良善的，祢是独一的神，我敬畏尊崇祢。”

He is the king. Why didn't he conclude by saying, "Everybody in my kingdom is going to have to serve God"? Because he had enough sense to know that he himself wouldn't have obeyed easily. God spoke to him clearly, told him what to do, and he said no. If he commanded everybody in his kingdom to do it, they would say no, too.

他是君王。他为什么不在结尾下一道严令：“全国所有臣民都必须服事这位神”呢？因为他心里清清楚楚地知道，当初连他自己都不肯顺服。神曾何等清楚地向他说话，明确吩咐他当怎样行，而他却断然拒绝。如果他强令全国百姓去顺从，百姓也同样会抗拒。

It is true, isn't it? Serving God is always an independent personal decision. No one can make that decision for you, and you can't make it for anybody else. Each of us has got to say, on the basis of the evidence, "I choose to believe in Jesus."

确实是这样，不是吗？服事神永远是个人的抉择。没有人能够替你做这个决定，你也无法替任何人做决定。我们每一个人都必须基于确凿的证据亲自宣告：“我选择信靠耶稣基督。”

Go back to the end of Daniel chapter one. Nebuchadnezzar found Daniel and his friends the smartest boys in the whole realm:

我们翻回到但以理书第一章的末尾。尼布甲尼撒发现但以理和他的同伴是全帝国中最有智慧的青年：

[Daniel 1:20 NKJV] - And in all matters of wisdom and understanding about which the king examined them, he found them ten times better than all the magicians and astrologers who were in all his realm.

王考问他们一切事，就见他们的智慧聪明比通国的术士和用法术的胜过十倍。

What did the king do about that? Nothing. He saw it. A lot of people see the great things of God, they acknowledge they are great things, marvelous things happen—and they do nothing.

王为此做了什么呢？什么也没做。他亲眼目睹了。世上有许多人看到了神的作为，承认那是极伟大的奇事，赞叹神迹的发生——然而他们自己却无动于衷。

In Daniel chapter two:

在但以理书第二章：

[Daniel 2:47 NKJV] - ⁴⁷ The king answered Daniel, and said, "Truly your God is the God of gods, the Lord of kings, and a revealer of secrets, since you could reveal this secret."

王对但以理说：“你既能显明这奥秘的事，你们的神诚然是万神之神、万王之王，又是显明奥秘事的。”

Nebuchadnezzar says, "This is absolutely wonderful! These men are marvelous! They declare to me what is going to happen for the rest of the age of the world." Did he say, "I am going to worship and follow that God"? No, he didn't say that.

尼布甲尼撒赞叹说：“这真是太不可思议了！这些人太了不起了！他们竟然向我显明了整个人类历史未来的结局。”但他有没有说“我要敬拜并一生跟从这位神”呢？没有，他并没有这么说。

[Daniel 2:48 NKJV] - ⁴⁸ Then the king promoted Daniel and gave him many great gifts; and he made him ruler over the whole province of Babylon, and chief administrator over all the wise men of Babylon.

于是王高升但以理，赏赐他许多上等礼物，派他管理巴比伦全省，又立他为总理，统治巴比伦的一切哲士。

He said, "I could use a man like that. He told me all about the history of the world to come—marvelous prophecy. I could use him. I'm going to promote him. What a good king am I! I am smart enough to promote the best guys in the kingdom." What's the matter with you, Nebuchadnezzar? Why don't you worship that God? Why don't you acknowledge that He is God and you are not?

他心想：“这样的人才大可为我所用。他向我道明了未来的世界历史——这是何等奇妙的预言！我要起用他，我要提拔重用他。我真是一位英明的君主！我多有见识，懂得把全国最杰出的人才收揽在麾下。”尼布甲尼撒，你到底怎么了？你为什么不肯俯伏敬拜那位真神呢？你为什么不肯承认祂才是掌权的神，而你不是呢？

What happens at the end of chapter three? Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego were cast into the fiery furnace. None of them were harmed; the people who cast them in were burned to death by the fire, but they were delivered. It was a marvelous miracle. What does Nebuchadnezzar do? Did he say, "I'm going to make Him my God"? No, he didn't do that.

第三章的结尾发生了什么？沙得拉、米煞、亚伯尼哥被扔进了烈火的窑中。他们三个人毫无损伤；那些把他们扔进去的壮士反被烈火烧死，而他们却全然蒙拯救。这是一个惊天动地的神迹。尼布甲尼撒是怎么做的？他说“我要尊祂为我的神”了吗？不，他没有。

[Daniel 3:29 NKJV] - Therefore I make a decree that any people, nation, or language which speaks anything amiss against the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego shall be cut in pieces, and their houses shall be made an ash heap; because there is no other God who can deliver like this."

现在我降旨，无论何民、何国、何语的人，谤渎沙得拉、米煞、亚伯尼哥之神的，必被凌迟，他的房屋必成粪堆，因为没有别神能这样施行拯救。

He says, "I am king around here, and you guys better obey the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego. Don't ever say anything bad against Him."

Why did the tragedy of chapter four fall on Nebuchadnezzar? Because he rejected the truth in chapters one, two, and three!

他说：“这天下由我作主，你们这帮人最好顺从沙得拉、米煞、亚伯尼哥的神，谁也不许说亵渎祂的坏话。”第四章的惨痛悲剧为什么会降临在尼布甲尼撒身上？正因为他一而再、再而三地拒绝了第一章、第二章和第三章里所彰显的真理！

A lot of people say, "I don't need to worry. I can pretty much go my own way. God spoke to me once, I didn't do anything, and nothing happened. Then something else happened, and nothing happened. Then something else, and still nothing happened." When you and I stand before God and the books are opened, how many times are we going to be able to say to God, "You said You would do this and You didn't; You were wrong, God"?

许多人往往心存侥幸说：“我用不着操心，尽可走自己的路。神曾经警告过我一次，我没理会，也没发生什么大祸。后来又经历了一次，还是风平浪静。再后来又来了一次，依然安然无恙。”当你我最终站在神的审判台前、案卷展开之时，我们有哪一次能够理直气壮地对神说：“祢曾说要施行管教，祢却没有做；神啊，是祢说错了”？

Remember, on judgment day, every argument that we have against God is going to fail. Every word that He put in the Bible is going to be proven to be correct and accurate. What is the only common-sense response? We say, "Lord, You are right, I am wrong; I am going Your way." That is what he says at the end of chapter four. It would have been a totally different story if he had said that earlier!

务要牢记：在审判之日，我们向神所发的一切辩驳都必哑口无言。圣经里的每一个字，都必被证实是全然真实而准确的。唯一合乎理智的回应是什么？唯有俯伏承认：“主啊，祢是对的，我是错的；我要走祢的道路。”这就是尼布甲尼撒在第四章末尾所宣告的。如果他早一点说出这番话，他的人生故事该是何等不同啊！

Did the story of Nebuchadnezzar have a good end? Yes. How could it have had a better end? If he had obeyed the Lord before the tragedy!

尼布甲尼撒的故事结局好吗？是的，很好。但怎样才能有一个更好的结局呢？倘若他在悲剧发生之前就甘心顺服主！

Does God still love His children when they do things that are wrong? Yes. But here is the question: does God ever speak with convicting power through life's circumstances? Yes. If God can speak to a little boy regarding a jack-in-the-box, He can speak to you and me and all the others. He will not leave Himself without witness. Don't wait to respond to God.

当神的孩子做了错事时，神依然爱他们吗？是的。但关键在于：神是否曾借着生活的境遇发出深具鉴察之能的真切呼召？是的。神若能借着一个盒中玩偶对一个幼童说话，祂同样能够对你、对我以及所有人说话。神绝不会未显明见证而任人迷失。切莫迟延回应神的呼召！

Are there any questions or comments on chapter four before we get into chapter five?

在我们进入第五章之前，大家对第四章有什么问题或看法吗？

Audience question: Was Nebuchadnezzar mentally ill for seven years? Some people say he contracted a disease, boanthropy, where a person thinks they are an animal.

（会众提问：尼布甲尼撒那七年是不是得了精神疾病？有人说他患了一种叫“变兽妄想症”的病，人发疯到一个程度，自以为是一只动物。）

Some people say his disease was boanthropy—it means you are so crazy you think you are an animal. Was that his disease? No, it was far worse than that! If I thought I was a horse, I might neigh, but I wouldn't start eating grass. If I had that disease, my hair wouldn't start growing like eagles' feathers, and my fingernails wouldn't be like birds' claws. It is possible he had a mental affliction, but what he ended up with was a direct judgment of God, far beyond any mere disease.

有人说他患了“变兽妄想症”——意思是疯癫到了极点，自以为是动物。那是普通的病症吗？不，远比那可怖得多！就算我认为自己是一匹马，我可能会学马叫，但我绝不会真的去大嚼青草。即便我得了妄想症，我的头发绝不会长得像鹰毛，指甲也不会生得如同猛禽的利爪。他或许在外表上呈现出某种病态，但他所遭遇的乃是神直接的超自然管教，远远超乎任何属世的疾病。

Don't explain away the problem by saying, "He got a disease." You know some people do that: "I know I am a bad person, but you see, I've got this condition." They explain all kinds of things away, saying, "You are responsible, but I'm not, because I've got a disease." The other excuse is, "It isn't my fault, it is my environment. You guys are my problem." I keep thinking of the man who said, "It is not my fault; my mother dropped me on my head when I was a baby! Don't blame me, blame somebody else." Nebuchadnezzar said, "It was my fault." Good for him!

千万不要用“他得了病”来推卸责任、掩盖真相。世上常有人这样找借口：“我知道我不好，但你看，我有某种心理疾病。”他们以此来逃避所有的罪责，辩解说：“你们都要负责，唯独我不用，因为我有病。”另

一种借口则是：“这不是我的错，是环境造成的。全都是你们的问题。”这让我想起曾有人开脱说：“这不是我的错，是我小时候母亲把我摔在地上磕了脑袋！别怪我，去怪别人吧。”而尼布甲尼撒最终坦承：“这是我自己的过犯。”这才是真正的悔改！

God holds you responsible for what He taught you. Chapter five is going to teach us that God also holds you responsible for what He taught your father and your grandfather. Sometimes I've got to say, "Harold, you must not do that. You know what God taught your grandfather, what God taught your father. You had better learn from what God taught them; He doesn't have to teach you the same hard lesson."

神必按祂所教导你的向你追讨责任。而第五章将进一步启示我们：神还要照着祂曾教导你父亲和你祖父的功课，向你追讨责任！有时候我必须警戒自己：“哈罗德，你万万不可那样行。你明明晓得神曾怎样管教你的祖父，怎样教导你的父亲。你最好从他们身上学到教训，免得神不得不用同样的严厉杖竿来管教你。”

The Pattern of Pride and Belshazzar's Feast

[Daniel 5:1 NKJV] - ¹ Belshazzar the king made a great feast for a thousand of his lords, and drank wine in the presence of the thousand.

伯沙撒王为他的一千大臣设摆盛筵，与这一千人对面饮酒。

We are going to find out that this man, Belshazzar, was Nebuchadnezzar's grandson. He became king, and he decided to throw a massive party. His grandfather had invited all the people together to the great celebration on the plain of Dura, compelling them to bow down and worship the image he had set up. Belshazzar simply said, "We will have a great big feast, and every one of us can get rip-roaring drunk." What a wicked man! A lot of people in the world reward their associates by plunging them into sin and more sin.

我们会发现，这位伯沙撒王是尼布甲尼撒的孙子。他登基作王，决意举行一场穷奢极欲的狂欢盛宴。他的祖父当年曾召集天下臣民到杜拉平原聚集，强迫所有人向他所立的金像俯伏敬拜。而伯沙撒却说：“我们要大摆筵席，让所有人都喝得酩酊大醉。”这是何等邪恶败坏的人！世上许多居高位者笼络部属的伎俩，就是引诱他们深陷罪恶、放纵肉体情欲。

[Daniel 5:2 NKJV] - ² While he tasted the wine, Belshazzar gave the command to bring the gold and silver vessels which his father Nebuchadnezzar had taken from the temple which had been in Jerusalem, that the king and his lords, his wives, and his concubines might drink from them.

伯沙撒欢饮之间，吩咐人将他祖父尼布甲尼撒从耶路撒冷殿中所掠的金银器皿拿来，王与大臣、皇后、妃嫔好用这器皿饮酒。

He decided to make them all drunk—that was bad enough. But what was far worse: he took those vessels from the temple of God.

(A phone rings in the congregation) John, hang up and sit down. I've spoken to you about that before. You have to listen, just like Belshazzar had to listen. Put that away.

他让所有人沉溺醉乡——这已经够罪恶了。然而更令人发指的在后头：他竟下令去取神殿中的圣器。（会众中有手机响声）约翰，把电话挂了，坐下。我以前就提醒过你。你必须专心听道，就像伯沙撒当年必须听神说话一样。把手机收起来。

He took the vessels that had been reserved for the use to glorify God, and he said, "I will use those vessels to bring glory to myself. All the people here will drink in honor of me, and we will use the holy vessels of God to honor this wickedness."

他竟敢擅取那本当专用于荣耀神的圣器，狂妄宣称：“我要用这些器皿来荣耀我自己！在座的所有人都要为我举杯祝饮，我们要拿神的圣器来为这场亵渎的狂欢助兴！”

[Daniel 5:3-4 NKJV] - ³ Then they brought the gold vessels that had been taken from the temple of the house of God which had been in Jerusalem; and the king and his lords, his wives, and his concubines drank from them. ⁴ They drank wine, and praised the gods of gold and silver, bronze and iron, wood and stone.

于是他们把耶路撒冷神殿中圣所里所掠的金器皿拿来，王和大臣、皇后、妃嫔就用这器皿饮酒。他们饮酒，赞美金、银、铜、铁、木、石所造的神。

Was that right? Absolutely not.

这种作为能被容忍吗？断乎不能！

[Daniel 5:5-6 NKJV] - ⁵ In the same hour the fingers of a man's hand appeared and wrote opposite the lampstand on the plaster of the wall of the king's palace; and the king saw the part of the hand that wrote. ⁶ Then the king's countenance changed, and his thoughts troubled him, so that the joints of his hips were loosened and his knees knocked against each other.

当时，忽有人的指头显出，在王宫与灯台相对的粉墙上写字。王看见写字的指头，就变了脸色，心意惊惶，腰骨好像脱节，双膝彼此相碰。

God's sentence upon this man's grandfather came at the very moment he was boasting in evil; this man did the same thing, and the judgment arrived the same way. The king saw the hand that wrote. His countenance changed, his thoughts troubled him, the joints of his hips loosened, and his knees knocked against each other. He had done what was wrong; he knew he had done what was wrong, and he was terrified.

当年神对他祖父的宣判，是在他自夸行恶的当口骤然临到的；而这个狂妄的孙子重蹈覆辙，审判以同样的迅猛降临。王看见了那只写字的手掌。他吓得面如土色，心惊胆战，以至于双腿发软、腰骨脱节，吓得两膝不住地彼此撞击！他作恶多端，深知自己触犯了不可饶恕的大罪，整个人陷入了无边的恐惧绝望之中。

Sometimes people ask why a preacher stands behind a pulpit with a solid front. Perhaps it is so you can preach the truth and the congregation can't see your knees shaking! It is an awesome, solemn thing to preach the truth of God. But this man wasn't trembling because he was reverently serving God; he was terrified because he knew he had deeply offended the Almighty God who created him.

有时人们开玩笑问，为什么讲台的前面总有一块挡板？也许正是为了让传道人在宣告真理时，下面的会众看不见他两腿打战吧！传讲神的真理确实是一件极其庄严可畏的事。然而，这位不可一世的暴君此刻的战栗，绝非出于敬畏事奉神，而是因为他骤然惊觉，自己已经彻底触怒了创造天地的主宰！

That is our study for tonight. We will carry on next week, Lord willing. Thank you for your patience.

这就是我们今晚的学习。若主愿意，我们下周继续研读。谢谢大家的耐心。

Let us pray:

Lord, we thank You for Your kindness to us. You are a good God, and Lord, You are a very patient God. But we thank You that Your patience was demonstrated with Nebuchadnezzar and Belshazzar, so that we could learn the solemn lessons of Your sovereignty. We thank You for Your kindness. We pray Your blessing upon each of us. Lord, we pray that You will bless the saints at 16th Avenue Gospel Chapel, all that we reach out to, and all our families. We give thanks now in Jesus' name. Amen.

让我们一同祷告：主啊，我们感谢祢向我们施显的慈爱与恩惠。祢是美善的神，主啊，祢更是极其恒久忍耐的神。我们感谢祢，因为祢曾在尼布甲尼撒和伯沙撒身上显明了祢的忍耐与公义，叫我们得以从中领悟祢绝对主权的庄严训诲。我们感谢祢的恩慈，祈求祢将属天的福分倾倒在每一位弟兄姊妹身上。主啊，求祢施恩

赐福给第十六大道福音堂的所有圣徒、我们所传福音的对象以及我们所关爱的一切亲人。我们满怀感恩，乃是奉主耶稣基督的得胜尊名祷告。阿们。