

Title: Who Ya Gonna Call? - Daniel 4 1-18

Read:

¹⁻² King Nebuchadnezzar to everyone, everywhere—every race, color, and creed: "Peace and prosperity to all! It is my privilege to report to you the gracious miracles that the High God has done for me. ³"His miracles are staggering, his wonders are surprising. His kingdom lasts and lasts, his sovereign rule goes on forever. ⁴⁻⁷ "I, Nebuchadnezzar, was at home taking it easy in my palace, without a care in the world. But as I was stretched out on my bed I had a dream that scared me—a nightmare that shook me. I sent for all the wise men of Babylon so that they could interpret the dream for me. When they were all assembled—magicians, enchanters, fortunetellers, witches—I told them the dream. None could tell me what it meant. ⁸ "And then Daniel came in. His Babylonian name is Belteshazzar, named after my god, a man full of the divine Holy Spirit. I told him my dream. ⁹ "Belteshazzar,' I said, 'chief of the magicians, I know that you are a man full of the divine Holy Spirit and that there is no mystery that you can't solve. Listen to this dream that I had and interpret it for me. ¹⁰⁻¹² "This is what I saw as I was stretched out on my bed. I saw a big towering tree at the center of the world. As I watched, the tree grew huge and strong. Its top reached the sky and it could be seen from the four corners of the earth. Its leaves were beautiful, its fruit abundant—enough food for everyone! Wild animals found shelter under it, birds nested in its branches, everything living was fed and sheltered by it. ¹³⁻¹⁵ "And this also is what I saw as I was stretched out on my bed. I saw a holy watchman descend from heaven, and call out: Chop down the tree, lop off its branches, strip its leaves and scatter its fruit. Chase the animals from beneath it and shoo the birds from its branches. But leave the stump and roots in the ground, belted with a strap of iron and bronze in the grassy meadow. ¹⁵⁻¹⁶ Let him be soaked in heaven's dew and take his meals with the animals that graze. Let him lose his mind and get an animal's mind in exchange, And let this go on for seven seasons. ¹⁷ The angels announce this decree, the holy watchmen bring this sentence, So that everyone living will know that the High God rules human kingdoms. He arranges kingdom affairs however he wishes, and makes leaders out of losers. ¹⁸ "This is what I, King Nebuchadnezzar, dreamed. It's your turn, Belteshazzar—interpret it for me. None of the wise men of Babylon could make heads or tails of it, but I'm sure you can do it. You're full of the divine Holy Spirit." "You Will Graze on the Grass Like an Ox"

Think:

Dumb, dumb, dumb. Why is it that even after seeing the results that calling on the creator God can have the king still leaves God to last? He has a dream and so what does he do? He calls the magicians, he calls the enchanters, he calls the fortune-tellers, and he even calls the witches. He does all this before he suddenly remembers Daniel the guy that introduced God to him last time. The only problem is that sometimes I am dumb, dumb, dumb. Sometimes when I have a problem in my life I speak to my mates, I check out the internet, I even speak to those people who are not my mates. Sometimes it's only as a last resort that I call on the name of my God. Why is it when we speak to the God who created all these people we would rather go to them than him? Maybe because we doubt him, maybe because we doubt our faith, maybe because we doubt we are good enough for him to be interested. Whatever the reason it's trash. Our God is massive and he loves me, he loves you so much he would give up his own son for us. Do you think maybe next time we have a problem God should be our first place to turn to. He might use our mates, he might even use the internet, but lets trust in him rather than anything else.

Pray:

Father God I am sorry for the times I have not turned to you first for help. Please help me turn to you first in the future. Amen.

Action:

When was the last time you actually thank your God for something? Make a list of ten things you are thankful to God for and thank him now. Cheerio.