

Title: The Bigger They Are The Harder They Fall - Daniel 4 19-27

Read:

¹⁹ Then Daniel (also called Belshazzar) was greatly perplexed for a time, and his thoughts terrified him. So the king said, "Belshazzar, do not let the dream or its meaning alarm you." Belshazzar answered, "My lord, if only the dream applied to your enemies and its meaning to your adversaries!" ²⁰ The tree you saw, which grew large and strong, with its top touching the sky, visible to the whole earth, ²¹ with beautiful leaves and abundant fruit, providing food for all, giving shelter to the beasts of the field, and having nesting places in its branches for the birds of the air - ²² you, O king, are that tree! You have become great and strong; your greatness has grown until it reaches the sky, and your dominion extends to distant parts of the earth. ²³ "You, O king, saw a messenger, a holy one, coming down from heaven and saying, 'Cut down the tree and destroy it, but leave the stump, bound with iron and bronze, in the grass of the field, while its roots remain in the ground. Let him be drenched with the dew of heaven; let him live like the wild animals, until seven times pass by for him.' ²⁴ "This is the interpretation, O king, and this is the decree the Most High has issued against my lord the king: ²⁵ You will be driven away from people and will live with the wild animals; you will eat grass like cattle and be drenched with the dew of heaven. Seven times will pass by for you until you acknowledge that the Most High is sovereign over the kingdoms of men and gives them to anyone he wishes. ²⁶ The command to leave the stump of the tree with its roots means that your kingdom will be restored to you when you acknowledge that Heaven rules. ²⁷ Therefore, O king, be pleased to accept my advice: Renounce your sins by doing what is right, and your wickedness by being kind to the oppressed. It may be that then your prosperity will continue."

Think:

Do you ever feel a little humble when you speak to your Father God? Well the good news is that's the right place to be. We should feel thankful that the God who created the universe, also took the time to create us and sent his son to die so that we can join him in heaven. Seems to me that that King dumb here may have been missing that point as well as all the others he has been missing. You see it doesn't matter how big you think you are, it doesn't matter how talented you think you are, your achievements are tiny compared to the God who created the universe. That's not to say that you should not be pleased with your achievements but you might want to ask yourself if you are including God in what you are doing. Daniel is telling The King here that he is going to find out how small a king he really is compared to the King of the Heavens if he doesn't get his act into gear soon. Do we have success in our lives, that we put down to who we are and not the grace of God who has given us talents? Have we achieved small or large things that we have not thanked God for? Why not take the time today to thank God for all your gifts and achievements, because he wants to share in those with you.

Pray:

Lord thank you for all my talents, please help me use them to your glory. Amen.

Action:

Whilst we are discussing talents are you saying things like I'm no good, I have no talents? Don't be fooled by the Devil. God has given you talents and he wants you to use them. Write down five things you are good at and thank God for them. Do it now. Bye.