PRIDE

Pride is touted as a positive virtue in the secular world, as long as it presented in a socially acceptable and palatable manner. Even in the Christian community, some sins are looked upon with disdain but the subtle nature of pride in one’s own heart gets a pass. Of course, there is plain arrogance that we abhor. The irony is that we abhor it the more because of the vestiges of pride that we have in our own hearts. We hate the characteristics in others that we ourselves fully possess.

The story of Nebuchadnezzar’s public humiliation and fall from pride is a warning especially to those living in the end of time. Pride is a characteristic that we are to ask God to expunge from our lives. Pride will be the downfall of Christian living just before Jesus comes. Of the eight stories in Daniel, this story reveals the characteristic that we are to avoid as the prophecies of Daniel are being fulfilled.
Write out Daniel 4 from the translation of your choice. If you’re pressed for time, write out Daniel 4:19–27. You may also rewrite the passage in your own words, outline, or mind map the chapter.
Go back to your scribed text and study the passage.

Circle repeated words/ phrases/ideas

Underline words/phrases that are important and have meaning to you

Draw Arrows to connect words/ phrases to other associated or related words/phrases

What special insights do your marks seem overall to point to?

Memorize your favorite verse in Daniel 4. Write it out multiple times to help with memorization.

Have you ever had an experience where you felt that God had humbled you? How did you feel?

How does Nebuchadnezzar’s experience shed light on that experience?

Read more at www.inversebible.org/dan4-3
After looking at your scribed and annotated text, what special insights do your marks overall seem to point to?

What questions emerge after studying this passage? What parts are difficult?

What other principles and conclusions do you find?

How might God be shouting in your life?

Read more at www.inversebible.org/dan4-4
What relationship do the following verses have with the primary passage?

Proverbs 8:13
Proverbs 11:2
Proverbs 13:10
Proverbs 16:18, 19
Proverbs 18:12
Jeremiah 9:23
Isaiah 14:12–14
Ezekiel 28:11–16
James 4:6, 10
Philippians 2:3

What other verses/promises come to mind in connection with Daniel 4?

Review your memorized verse from Daniel 4.
Where do you see Jesus in Daniel 4?

What is He saying to you through these texts?

How do you see Jesus differently or see Him again?

Prayer: How do you respond to seeing Jesus in this way?

Read more at www.inversebible.org/dan4-6
Review the memory verse. How does it apply to your life this week?

After this week’s study of the chapter, what are personal applications you are convicted of in your life?

What are practical applications you must make in your public and social life?

Read more inSight from the Spirit of Prophecy at www.inversebible.org/dan4-7
inQuire

Share insights from this week’s memory verse and Bible study as well as any discoveries, observations, and questions with your Sabbath School class (or Bible study group). Consider these discussion questions with the rest of the group.

When was a time in your life that God got your attention? Did you perceive it at the time as a good thing or bad thing?

What is the relationship between love and discipline?

Can parents do something in the best interest of a child that can be perceived as unloving from the vantage point of the child?

What are some things that parents do from a long-term perspective in the child’s best interests?

Why do you think that God ranks pride number one on His list of deadly sins in Proverbs 6:16–19?

Why is it hard to feel our need and dependence on God?

What are things that we can do to feel our need of God more?