

BABYLON

THE HIGH PRICE OF AN UNTAMED EGO

Nebuchadnezzar's *Weird Dream, Stern Warning and Huge Case of Humble Pie*

Daniel 4

The High Price Of An Untamed Ego

What's The Difference Between Healthy Pride & Arrogance?

- ✓ There's nothing wrong with healthy pride that . . .

Romans 12:3/ 2 Corinthians 8:24/ Galatians 6:4 & James 1:9-10

Is confident in my abilities

Finds joy & satisfaction in my successes

Tells others about my successes

- ✓ There's everything wrong with arrogance that . . .

Daniel 4:29-30/ Luke 18:9-14/ 2 Chronicles 26:16/ Psalm 10:2/ Psalm 10:4/ Proverbs 8:13 & 15:25

Looks down on others

Thinks the rules for others don't apply to me

Takes advantage of the weak

Blows God off

- ✓ God ***hates*** arrogant pride!

How To Keep Your Ego Well-Tamed

Daniel 4: 29-30/ James 1:16-17/ 1 Corinthians 10:31 & Proverbs 16:2-3

- ➊ Share the ***credit***.
- ➋ Remember the ***helping hand***.
- ➌ Ask, "What's in it for ***God***?"

TAKING IT HOME

1. Look back at the sermon notes on keeping your ego well tamed. Which of these three practices is the most challenging for you?

2. Nebuchadnezzar didn't need to go through the experience of living like an animal in order to learn humility. God gave him ample time to change his attitude - but he was unwilling. Is there an area of your life where God wants you to change your attitude and teach you humility?



REAL MAN WEEKEND: Our Real Man Weekend for the Oakbridge Experience is set for October 19-21. It will be another man's weekend complete with plenty of man event options (paintball \$35, rock climbing, hiking, sports, mountain biking, road biking, 4x4ing, sleeping & eating, etc.). This year's look into Scripture will be on man topics adapted from the HBO World War II Movie Series "Band of Brothers." Cost is \$165-195. Space is limited. Don't delay.

COMMUNITY SERVICE - Vistans R.O.C.! (Revitalizing Our Community) is the City of Vista's annual neighborhood revitalization program. Growth Groups are needed for Saturday, October 13, from 8am-4pm to paint, landscape and cleanup homes in specific neighborhoods. Sign up on our web site at www.northcoastchurch.com/service or contact Clare (760) 724-6700 X183

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✓ There's everything wrong with arrogance that . . .
Daniel 4:29-30/ Luke 18:9-14/ 2 Chronicles 26:16/ Psalm 10:2/ Psalm 10:4/ Proverbs 8:13 & 15:25

✓ God _____ arrogant pride!

How To Keep Your Ego Well Tamed

Daniel 4: 29-30/ James 1:16-17/ 1 Corinthians 10:31 & Proverbs 16:2-3

❶ Share the _____.

❷ Remember the _____.

❸ Ask, "What's in it for _____?"

Growth Group Homework

For the week of October 7, 2007

QUICK REVIEW: Take a look at your sermon notes from this week. Was there a point in the sermon or a verse that Pastor Larry read that you really took to heart? Was there anything else that challenged you or caught your attention?

MY STORY

1. It may be hard for some of us to relate with King Nebuchadnezzar's arrogance as most of us don't rule over a nation. God, however, is just as concerned about our "everyday arrogance." Where do you see arrogance or an untamed ego showing up in the world around you?

2. One definition of humility is having an accurate view of ourselves - including our strengths, weaknesses, and limitations. What is one gift, strength or ability that God has given you?

Now think back over your life. Is there one person who has modeled this sort of humility for you? How did you see humility in their life?

DIGGING DEEPER

1. Noted author C.S. Lewis wrote, "the essential vice, the utmost evil, is pride...Pride leads to every other vice: it is the complete anti-God state of mind." Solomon had quite a bit to say about pride and arrogance as well. Jot down a few of his observations from the Proverbs listed below.

Proverbs 11:2

Proverbs 13:10

Proverbs 16:5

Proverbs 16:18

Even though pride has so many negative consequences it seems like the arrogant can still prosper. What light does Isaiah 2:11-12 shed on this dilemma?

2. Keeping pride and arrogance at bay even in the little things is a challenge for all of us. In the face of the following situations, first write down what an arrogant response could look like. Then jot down how the related Scriptures could help you think and respond better.

Your co-worker or friend confronts you about a questionable decision you made. (Check out Proverbs 15:31-33)

You have been hurt by another person who was clearly in the wrong. (Check out Colossians 3:12-14)

You are doing something good and hope people notice you doing it. (Check out 1 Peter 2:12)

3. Another part of resisting arrogance and keeping our egos well tamed is not forgetting where our blessings, abilities and prosperity come from. Read Deuteronomy 8:10-18 and make a list of the warnings and reminders that God gave His children.

What are a few things in our lives that could tempt us to take the credit and put the focus on our own abilities or glory?