

DANIEL 4:28 “But all these things did happen to King Nebuchadnezzar. 29 Twelve months later he was taking a walk on the flat roof of the royal palace in Babylon. 30 As he looked out across the city, he said, ‘Look at this great city of Babylon! By my own mighty power, I have built this beautiful city as my royal residence to display my majestic splendor.’

31 “While these words were still in his mouth, a voice called down from heaven, ‘O King Nebuchadnezzar, this message is for you! You are no longer ruler of this kingdom. 32 You will be driven from human society. You will live in the fields with the wild animals, and you will eat grass like a cow. Seven periods of time will pass while you live this way, until you learn that the Most High rules over the kingdoms of the world and gives them to anyone he chooses.’

33 “That same hour the judgment was fulfilled, and Nebuchadnezzar was driven from human society. He ate grass like a cow, and he was drenched with the dew of heaven. He lived this way until his hair was as long as eagles’ feathers and his nails were like birds’ claws. 34 “After this time had passed, I, Nebuchadnezzar, looked up to heaven. My sanity returned, and I praised and worshiped the Most High and honored the one who lives forever. **“His rule is everlasting, and his kingdom is eternal.**

35 All the people of the earth
are nothing compared to him.
He does as he pleases
among the angels of heaven
and among the people of the earth.
No one can stop him or say to him,
‘What do you mean by doing these things?’

36 “When my sanity returned to me, so did my honor and glory and kingdom. My advisers and nobles sought me out, and I was restored as head of my kingdom, with even greater honor than before.

37 “Now I, Nebuchadnezzar, praise and glorify and honor the King of heaven. All his acts are just and true, and he is able to humble the proud.”

New Living Translation

Mental Health

Big Idea: Pride distorts rational thinking & leads to insanity.

Boastful leaders tempt God to ruin them (though God can’t be tempted/manipulated). Nothing is more unbecoming of a leader than self-esteeming. Gag! GOD RESISTS THE PROUD.

Misplaced Credit Leads to Self Glory, Then Ruin vv28-34

Three Circles of Domain:

Sanity Rests on Humility vv35-35

Mental Health Can Be Regained vv36-37

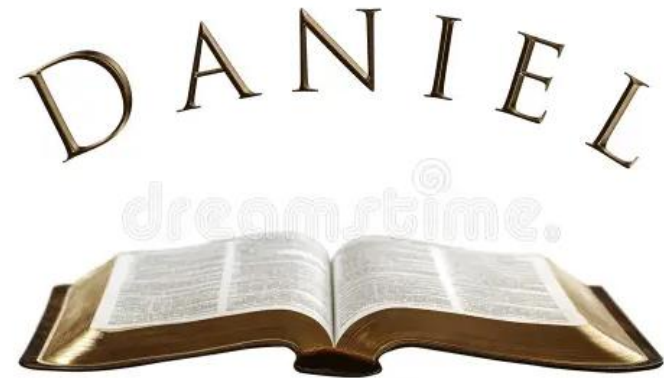
A Challenge for School Teachers

Given that this year is the 250th marker of our republic per the Declaration of Independence, I have been reading the Federalist Papers. These are 85 newspaper articles that were written just prior to the adoption of the Constitution by the thirteen colonies. Written by John Jay, James Madison, and Alexander Hamilton; they expound the how and why of various features of the proposed Constitution. The next year, 1788, the U.S. Constitution was made the supreme law of the land by the agreement of the thirteen States. Today every government official; federal, regional, and local, swear allegiance to this One Law, though some swear less than honestly.

It is with regret that the schools have long ago ceased teaching political economics, civics, and even basic features of our unique republic. Maybe dust off “How a bill becomes a law” from an old Schoolhouse Rock video. It’s time to re-educate and celebrate!

May I recommend to teachers and parents that you go beyond the curriculum and create an atmosphere of joy for our 250th national birthday? There are going to be parades around our nation in July and rightly so. Will you plaster your walls with education about the Constitution and the nuts and bolts of how and why America is exceptional? Maybe actually read the Constitution expositionally with kids gathered round. Create a legislature among them. Limit the powers of the class president like the Constitution does. Let’s educate & celebrate the U.S.A.

~ Rob



CHAPTER 4