**Daniel 4. STAND UP In CONFRONTATION!**

**11/6/22**

**Two Confrontational Extremes:**

* **Some Are Not WILLING To Confront.**
* **Some Confront UNLOVINGLY.**

***8****Finally, Daniel came into my presence and I told him the dream. (He is called Belteshazzar, after the name of my god, and the spirit of the holy gods is in him.).* ***9****I said, “Belteshazzar, chief of the magicians, I know that the spirit of the holy gods is in you, and no mystery is too difficult for you. Here is my dream; interpret it for me.* Daniel 4:8-9

***10****These are the visions I saw while lying in bed: I looked, and there before me stood a* ***tree*** *in the middle of the land. Its height was enormous.****11****The tree grew large and strong and its top touched the sky; it was visible to the ends of the earth.****12****Its leaves were beautiful, its fruit abundant, and on it was food for all. Under it the wild animals found shelter, and the birds lived in its branches; from it every creature was fed.* Daniel 4:10-12

***13****“In the visions I saw while lying in bed, I looked, and there before me was a* ***holy one, a messenger,*** *coming down from heaven.* ***14****He called in a loud voice: ‘Cut down the tree and trim off its branches; strip off its leaves and scatter its fruit. Let the animals flee from under it and the birds from its branches.* Daniel 4:13-14

***16****Let* ***his mind be changed from*** *that of a man and let him be given the* ***mind of an animal,*** *till* ***seven times****pass by for him...* ***18****“This is the dream that I, King Nebuchadnezzar, had. Now, Belteshazzar, tell me what it means, for none of the wise men in my kingdom can interpret it for me. But you can, because the spirit of the holy gods is in you.”* Daniel 4:16-18

1. **God, Help Me Confront With The Goal Of RESTORATION.**

***27****Therefore, Your Majesty, 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.”* Daniel 4:27

***28****All this happened to King Nebuchadnezzar.****29****Twelve months later, as the king was walking on the roof of the royal palace of Babylon,****30****he said, “Is not this the great* ***Babylon I have built*** *as the royal residence, by my mighty power and for the glory of my majesty?”* Daniel 4:28-30

Daniel 4:10-12

Romans 5:6-8

***31****Even as the words were on his lips, a* ***voice came from heaven****, “This is what is decreed for you, King Nebuchadnezzar: Your royal authority has been taken from you.****32****You will be driven away from people and will live with the wild animals; you will eat grass like the ox. Seven times will pass by for you until you acknowledge that the Most High is sovereign over all kingdoms on earth and* ***gives them to anyone he wishes.”***Daniel 4:31-32

***33****Immediately what had been said about Nebuchadnezzar was fulfilled. He was driven away from people and ate grass like the ox. His body was drenched with the dew of heaven until his hair grew like the feathers of an eagle and his nails like the claws of a bird.* Daniel 4:33

1. **God, Help Me Confront With CAUTION.**

*…And be careful not to fall into the same temptation yourself.* Galatians 6:1b

***34****At the end of that time, I, Nebuchadnezzar, raised my eyes toward heaven, and my* ***sanity****was restored. Then I praised the Most High; I honored and glorified him who lives forever. His dominion is an eternal dominion; his kingdom endures from generation to generation.* ***35****All the peoples of the earth are regarded as nothing. He does as he pleases with the powers of heaven and the peoples of the earth. No one can hold back his hand or say to him: “What have you done?”* Daniel 4:34-35

***36****At the same time that my* ***sanity*** *was restored, my* ***honor*** *and* ***splendor*** *were returned to me for the glory of my kingdom. My advisers and nobles sought me out, and I was restored to my throne and became even greater than before.****37****Now I, Nebuchadnezzar, praise and exalt and glorify the King of heaven, because everything he does is right and all his ways are just. And those who walk in pride he is able to humble.* Daniel 4:36-37

*But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, “God* ***opposes the proud*** *but gives grace to the humble*. James 4:6

*He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to* ***walk humbly*** *with your God?* Micah 6:8

**POINSETTIAS**