



Going Deeper Daniel 4 Pride Personified

1. The set-up of pride (4:1-4)
2. The language of pride (4:30)
 - a. Done BY ME (I did this)
 - b. Done FOR ME (the motive of why I accomplished this was for people to say “You are AWESOME”)
 - i. Juxtapose this with Psalm 115:1 and Matthew 6:13-16
 - ii. What is the Christians motive for “doing good”?

What is an example of a time where you did the right thing for the wrong reason? How did that end?
What did you learn?

3. The interruption of pride
 - a. “I saw a dream that made me afraid” (4:5)
 - b. Ecclesiastes 5:10-13 is a vivid picture of the responsibility of the successful. The description is that “sweet is the sleep of the laborer”

What strikes you most in that description?

- i. The more you have (money) the more you want (Ecclesiastes 5:10)
- ii. The more you have the more the government takes (Ecclesiastes 5:11)
- iii. The more you have the more you WORRY about what you have (v Ecclesiastes 5: 12)
- iv. The more you have the less you sleep (good) (Ecclesiastes 5:12)

4. Tree metaphor through Scripture
 - a. Genesis 1:29 – Description of the trees
 - b. Eden: 2 trees
 - i. Tree of life – Source of God’s wisdom, goodness, protection
 - ii. Tree of knowledge of good and evil – Dangerous, be careful, don’t eat
 - c. These two trees become metaphors through the text of Scripture
 - i. Israel as a tree
 - a. Psalm 44:1-4
 - b. Psalm 80:8-11
 - ii. The tree of judgement and promise in the prophets
 - a. Isaiah 10:19 – Judgement of the tree
 - b. Isaiah 11:1-5 – Promise of Messiah through the chopped tree (the root from the stump)
5. The result of pride (4:28-33)
 - a. Pride promises to make you MORE than human but ironically it makes us LESS than human (turns us into animals)
6. The remedy of pride
 - a. Repentance
 - b. Exchange false worship for TRUE worship
 - c. The Cross – the ULTIMATE TREE
 - d. Jesus (John 12:24) – Unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies it cannot bear fruit?

Where is there pride in your life? To diagnose and audit the pride in your life sort through a few of these questions:

- What areas do I constantly compare myself to others?
- What areas in my life do I feel like I need to perform?
- What areas in my life do I secretly hope to get recognition in?

What else did God say to you through this teaching?