THE Story

Lesson 28 Chapter 18 Daniel in Exile...Part 2 p.256-261

1. In Proverbs 11:2 Solomon warned, *"When pride comes, then comes disgrace."* How does the note at the bottom of page 256 to the top of page 257 provide evidence for the truth of that statement as illustrated in the life of King Nebuchadnezzar?

Daniel 4:34-37 records the amazing words of Nebuchadnezzar after his humiliating ordeal:

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?"*

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.*

Based on those words,

.....what conclusions had the king come to about the God Daniel loved and served?

....do you think we will one day see Nebuchadnezzar in heaven?

2. The note on page 257 also makes reference to Nebuchadnezzar's son Belshazzar's experience with "the handing writing on the wall" as recorded in Daniel 5. To review the full story you might want to read that chapter in your Bible.

3. From the bottom of page 257 to the top of page 260, we have the account of Daniel and the lions' den. As Daniel tried to serve a new king and a new administration, why were Daniel's peers out to get him and why were they not successful?

How do they illustrate the truths that jealousy is a powerful emotion and flattery is a dangerous form of communication?

4. Neither pressure from his peers nor the threat of death kept Daniel from prayer. Do you think that other qualities in Daniel's character revealed in this story were the outcome of his prayer life?

What were those qualities?

5. How does this story help illustrate Solomon's words in Proverbs 21:16...*"When justice is done it brings joy to the righteous but terror to evil doers"?*

6. On page 259, we read these words..."no wound was found on him, because he trusted in his God." What are the implications and applications for us from that statement?

7. Based on the decree that Darius issued following Daniel's release from the den (p.259-260), what had this king learned about the God Daniel loved & served?

8. On pages 260-61, verses are quoted from Jeremiah of God's promise that their time of captivity would last 70 years. Take your Bible and read Daniel's prayer to God as the end of 70 years of captivity was drawing near.(Daniel 9:1-19) Notice how it is marked with expressions of ADORATION, CONFESSION and SUPPLICATON.

9. As you review this portion of God's inspired Word, what truths do you learn about our humanity....sins to avoid & examples to follow

about our God... His promises to claim & His character to embrace