

Group

Discussion Guide



Title: The Sovereignty of God Over All Men

Text: Daniel 4

CONTEXT I

As we come Daniel 4, we are coming to the end of the story of King Nebuchadnezzar and his rule as king of the known world. For three chapters we have seen the sovereign hand of God at work in the people of God as Daniel and his three friends have taken a stand for the King of Kings, God the Most High, while facing great danger. King Nebuchadnezzar was an evil and prideful king who desire all the power and glory the world had to offer and would go to any measure to obtain it. But by Daniel's and his friends "Daring Faith" in the Greater King, we have seen the them overcome the king in the face danger by trusting the promises of God. Now in chapter 4 God gives Nebuchadnezzar a second dream that will ultimately humble and break the heart of this prideful king of the world as he extols God as King over all kingdoms.

MAIN IDEA I

Despite circumstances, we must trust that God is sovereign over all kingdoms and gives them to whom he wills.

MEMORY VERSE I

"17b to the end that the living may know that the Most High rules the kingdom of men and gives it to whom he will and sets over it the lowliest of men."

Daniel 4:17b

EXPLANATION I

God is all about His Glory and His renown and will stop at nothing to obtain it. God using the Pride of a king to illuminate the Sovereign will of the Father as the Greater King over all kingdoms.

- I. God's Sovereignty Displays Him as Greater King (v.4-18)
- II. God's Sovereignty Exposes Sin and Demands Righteousness (v.19-27)
- III. God's Sovereign Will Humbles the Proud (v.28-33)
- IV. God's Sovereign Will Is Always Just (v.34-37)

DISCUSSION QUESTION IDEAS I

- Why is it not arrogant of God to humble everyone whose pride threatens his glory?
- What makes the Sovereignty of God so hard for us to understand?
- In what ways can we warn other when times seem good and encourage others when times are hard?
- How does Jesus model how to handle greatness? How has he used his power to serve others?