

- 1 Nebuchadnezzar the king, unto all people, nations, and languages, that dwell in all the earth; Peace be multiplied unto you.
- 2 I thought it good to shew the signs and wonders that the high God hath wrought toward me.

**JUST MY OPINION, BUT I THINK THIS IS ABOUT
THE MOST UNIQUE CHAPTER IN ALL THE BIBLE.**

NEBUCHADNEZZAR'S TESTIMONY.

King Nebuchadnezzar

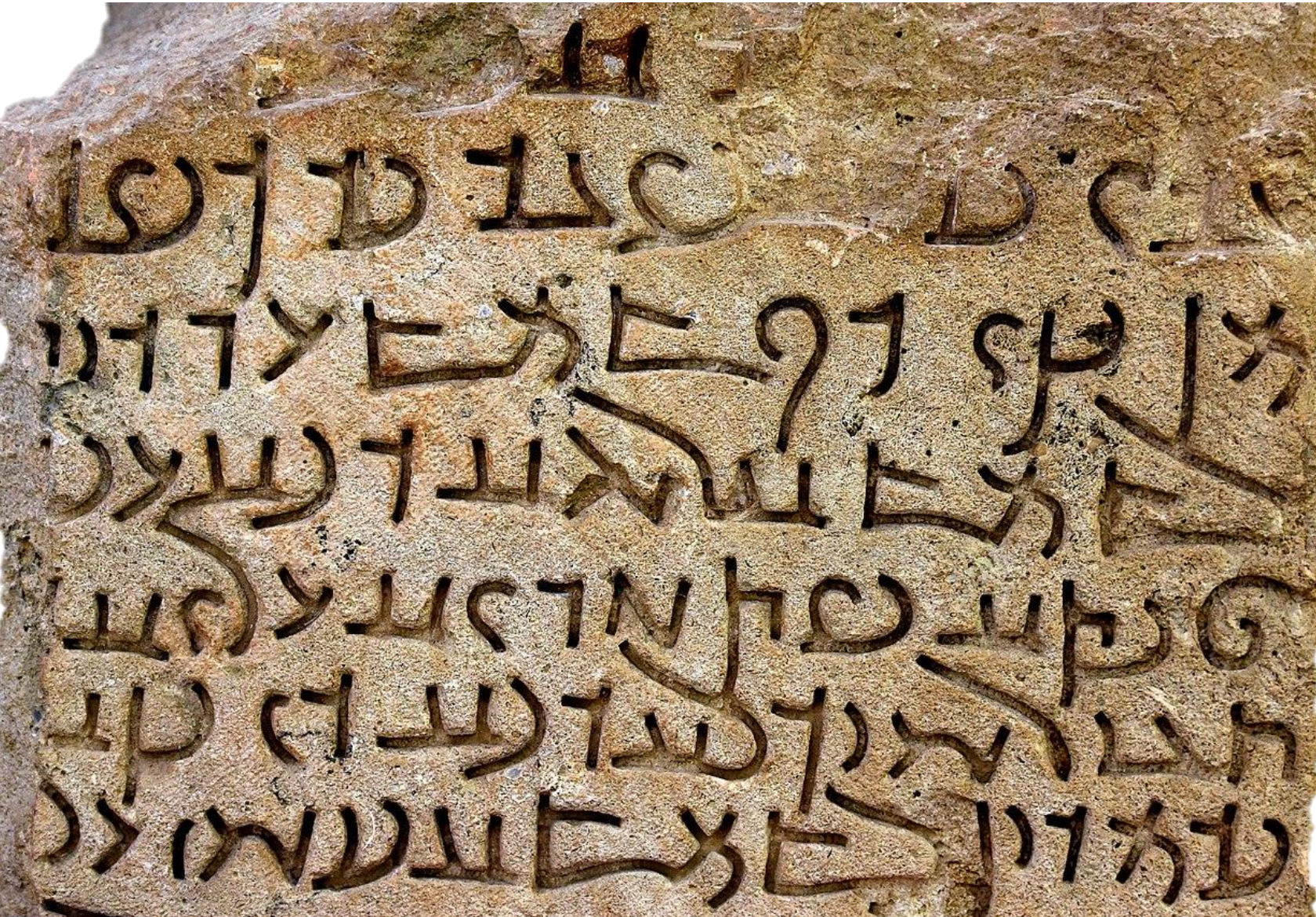
Writes A Letter To

The World

King Nebuchadnezzar Writes A Letter To The World

A close-up photograph of a hand holding a pencil, writing the words "Dear World" in a cursive script on a white piece of paper. The paper is placed on a dark, textured wooden surface. The lighting is warm, highlighting the hand and the pencil tip as it completes the word "World".

Dear World



**IT'S WRITTEN
IN ARAMAIC,
THE OFFICIAL
LANGUAGE OF
THE KINGDOM.**

NEBUCHADNEZZAR STARTS OUT WITH,

“I thought it good...”

THIS IS A GOOD LESSON FOR US TOO.

**IT IS GOOD TO TELL PEOPLE WHAT GOD HAS
DONE FOR YOU. IT'S GOOD EVANGELISM.**

**IN SOME SITUATIONS, IT IS THE MOST
EFFECTIVE WAY FOR YOU TO TELL PEOPLE
ABOUT GOD.**

3 How great are his signs! and how mighty are his wonders! his kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and his dominion is from generation to generation.

NEBUCHADNEZZAR PRAISES GOD FOR MIRACLES, AND THAT HIS KINGDOM IS UNLIKE THE KINGDOMS OF HUMANS.

4

I Nebuchadnezzar
was at rest in
mine house, and
flourishing in my
palace:

PROSPERITY!

IT CAN KILL.

**DANGEROUS FOR
INDIVIDUALS,
AND DANGEROUS FOR
CHURCHES.**

Revelation 3:17-18

17 Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked:

Revelation 3:17-18

18 I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see.



I saw a dream which made me afraid, and the thoughts upon my bed and the visions of my head troubled me.

-- Daniel 4:5



**Therefore made I a decree
to bring in all the wise
men of Babylon before
me, that they might make
known unto me the
interpretation of the
dream.**

-- Daniel 4:6



Then came in the magicians, the astrologers, the Chaldeans, and the soothsayers: and I told the dream before them; but they did not make known unto me the interpretation thereof.

-- Daniel 4:7



Daniel 4:8

But at the last Daniel came in before me, whose name was Belteshazzar, according to the name of my god, and in whom is the spirit of the holy gods: and before him I told the dream, saying,



O Belteshazzar, master of the magicians, because I know that the spirit of the holy gods is in thee, and no secret troubleth thee, tell me the visions of my dream that I have seen, and the interpretation thereof.

-- Daniel 4:9



10 Thus were the visions of mine head in my bed; I saw, and behold a tree in the midst of the earth, and the height thereof was great.



11 The tree grew, and was strong, and the height thereof reached unto heaven, and the sight thereof to the end of all the earth:



12 The leaves thereof were fair, and the fruit thereof much, and in it was meat for all: the beasts of the field had shadow under it, and the fowls of the heaven dwelt in the boughs thereof, and all flesh was fed of it.



So...

What about this dream was
enough to terrify
Nebuchadnezzar?

Daniel 4:13

I saw in the visions of my head upon my bed,
and, behold, a watcher and an holy one came down
from heaven;

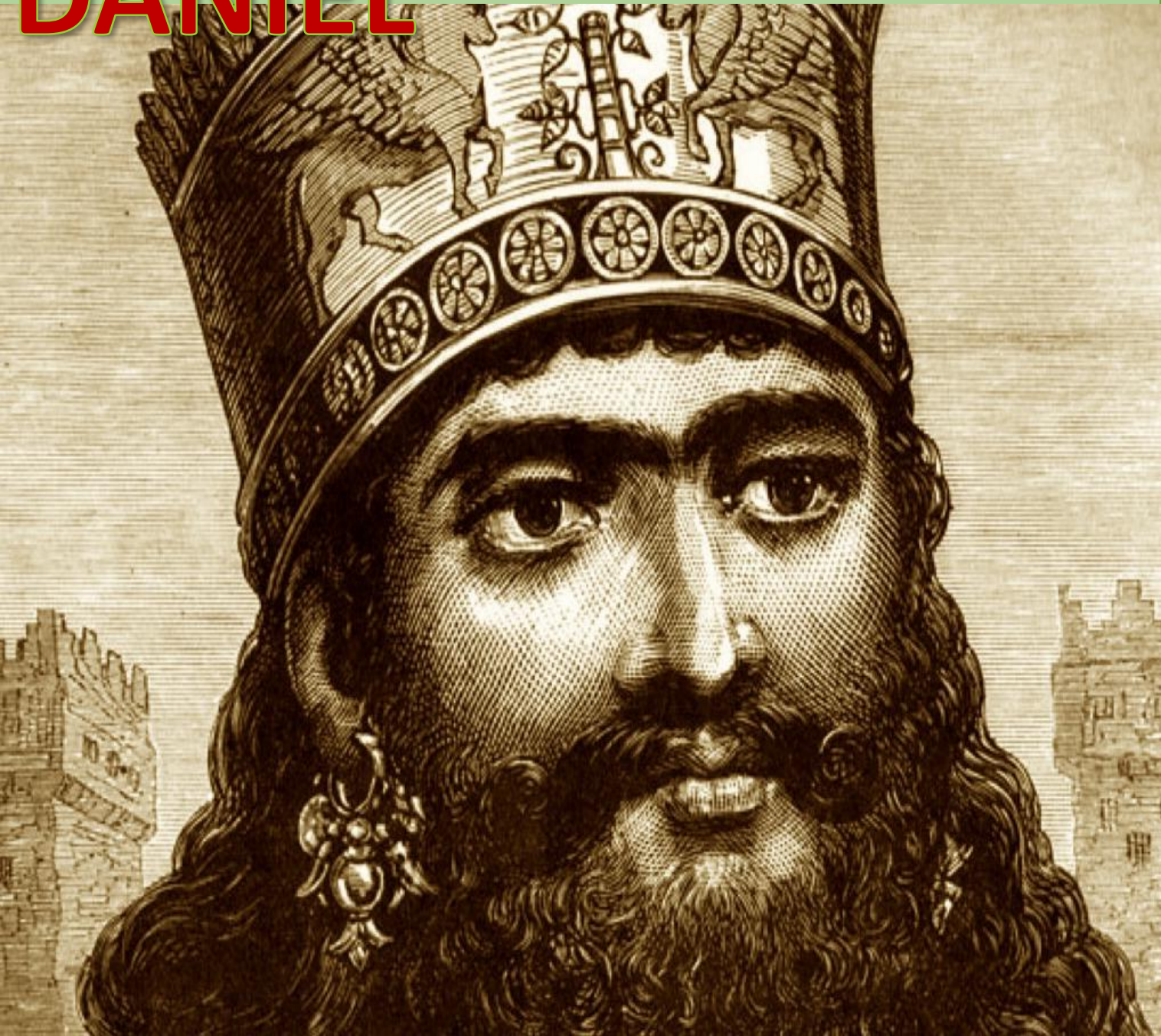
14 He cried aloud, and said thus, Hew down the tree, and cut off his branches, shake off his leaves, and scatter his fruit: let the beasts get away from under it, and the fowls from his branches:

15 Nevertheless leave the stump of his roots in the earth, even with a band of iron and brass, in the tender grass of the field; and let it be wet with the dew of heaven, and let his portion be with the beasts in the grass of the earth:

16 Let his heart be changed from man's, and let a beast's heart be given unto him; and let seven times pass over him.

17 This matter is by the decree of the watchers, and the demand by the word of the holy ones: to the intent that the living may know that the most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever he will, and setteth up over it the basest of men.

18 This dream I king Nebuchadnezzar have seen. Now thou, O Belteshazzar, declare the interpretation thereof, forasmuch as all the wise men of my kingdom are not able to make known unto me the interpretation: but thou art able; for the spirit of the holy gods is in thee.



**“O Belteshazzar,
declare the
interpretation
thereof!”**



**“All the wise men
of my kingdom
are not able to
make known unto
me the
interpretation...”**



“But thou art able!

**For the spirit of
the holy gods is in
thee.”**



**So there we have it:
The dream God gave to
Nebuchadnezzar.**

**A very big and fruitful tree
was ordered to be cut
down by the decree of a
watcher in order to
glorify God.**



And Nebuchadnezzar's part
in this?

What has him so
frightened?



(17)

... to the intent that the living may know that the most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever he will, and setteth up over it the basest of men.

WHAT ABOUT THIS?

**“This matter is by the decree of the watchers,
and the demand by the word of the holy
ones...”**

Who are “WATCHERS?”

WATCHER

1. Occurs only three times in the entire Bible.
2. All three times are in this chapter (13, 17, 23).
3. It's found in non-Biblical books (Enoch, Jubilees, others)
4. Meaning: "One who is awake."

WATCHERS

THE TERM IS APPLIED BOTH TO
FALLEN ANGELS (OUTSIDE THE BIBLE)
AND
HOLY ANGELS (IN THE BIBLE)

**THESE WATCHERS MAY BE PART OF
WHAT SOME PROPHECY STUDENTS CALL
THE “DIVINE COUNCIL.”**

**THEY LOOK TO 2 CHRONICLES 18 FOR AN
EXAMPLE.**

2 Chronicles 18:18-22

18 Again he said, Therefore hear the word of the LORD; I saw the LORD sitting upon his throne, and all the host of heaven standing on his right hand and on his left.

19 And the LORD said, Who shall entice Ahab king of Israel, that he may go up and fall at Ramothgilead? And one spake saying after this manner, and another saying after that manner.

20 Then there came out a spirit, and stood before the LORD, and said, I will entice him. And the LORD said unto him, Wherewith?

21 And he said, I will go out, and be a lying spirit in the mouth of all his prophets. And the LORD said, Thou shalt entice him, and thou shalt also prevail: go out, and do even so.

22 Now therefore, behold, the LORD hath put a lying spirit in the mouth of these thy prophets, and the LORD hath spoken evil against thee.

**NEBUCHADNEZZAR EVIDENTLY HAD SOME
CONCEPT OF WHAT THESE “WATCHERS” WERE,
EVEN IT WAS PAGANIZED.**

**WE MIGHT BE SURPRISED WHAT CULTURES OF
THAT TIME ACTUALLY KNEW!**

WE DON'T KNOW MUCH ABOUT "WATCHERS."

**THE FIRST 36 CHAPTERS OF
THE NON-BIBLICAL BOOK OF 1 ENOCH
IS USUALLY TITLED,
"The Book of the Watchers"**

THE NON-BIBLICAL BOOK OF 1 ENOCH

It describes the fall of the Watchers, who (it claims) are the angels who fathered the Nephilim (Genesis 6:1–4) and narrates the travels of Enoch in the heavens.

“To Gabriel also the Lord said. Go to the biters, to the reprobates, to the children of fornication; and destroy the children of fornication, the **offspring of the Watchers**, from among men ; bring them forth, and excite them one against another. Let them perish by mutual slaughter; for length of days shall not be theirs.”

-- 1 Enoch 10:13

**IN DANIEL, THE WATCHERS
ARE CONSIDERED TO BE GOOD.**

**“This matter is by the decree of the watchers,
and the demand by the word of the holy ones..”**

Daniel 4:17

WHAT DO WE ACTUALLY “KNOW?”

1. WATCHERS EXIST.
2. THEY HAVE THE AUTHORITY TO DECREE.
3. THEY ARE IN LEAGUE WITH “THE HOLY ONES.”

ANY MORE IS SPECULATION OR SUPERSTITION.



**WHATEVER
NEBUCHADNEZZAR
KNEW,
IT WAS ENOUGH TO
HUMBLE HIM, AND
SEND HIM LOOKING FOR
HELP!**

**NOW NEBUCHADNEZZAR GETS
WHAT HE'S BEEN WAITING FOR:**

THE INTERPRETATION OF THE DREAM.

Daniel 4:19-25

19 Then Daniel, whose name was Belteshazzar, was astonished for one hour, and his thoughts troubled him. The king spake, and said, Belteshazzar, let not the dream, or the interpretation thereof, trouble thee. Belteshazzar answered and said, My lord, the dream be to them that hate thee, and the interpretation thereof to thine enemies.

**SOME COMMENTATORS HAVE SAID THIS WAS AN
EASY DREAM TO INTERPRET.**

MAYBE IT WAS.

**WHATEVER THE CASE, DANIEL IS THE FIRST ONE
WILLING TO TELL NEBUCHADNEZZAR THE TRUTH.**

Daniel 4:19-25

20 The tree that thou sawest, which grew, and was strong, whose height reached unto the heaven, and the sight thereof to all the earth;

21 Whose leaves were fair, and the fruit thereof much, and in it was meat for all; under which the beasts of the field dwelt, and upon whose branches the fowls of the heaven had their habitation:

Daniel 4:19-25

22 It is thou, O king, that art grown and become strong: for thy greatness is grown, and reacheth unto heaven, and thy dominion to the end of the earth.

PART ONE IS CLEAR:

**NEBUCHADNEZZAR AND HIS KINGDOM
IS THE FRUITFUL TREE.**

Daniel 4:19-25

23 And whereas the king saw a watcher and an holy one coming down from heaven, and saying, Hew the tree down, and destroy it; yet leave the stump of the roots thereof in the earth, even with a band of iron and brass, in the tender grass of the field; and let it be wet with the dew of heaven, and let his portion be with the beasts of the field, till seven times pass over him;

Daniel 4:19-25

24 This is the interpretation, O king, and this is the decree of the most High, which is come upon my lord the king:

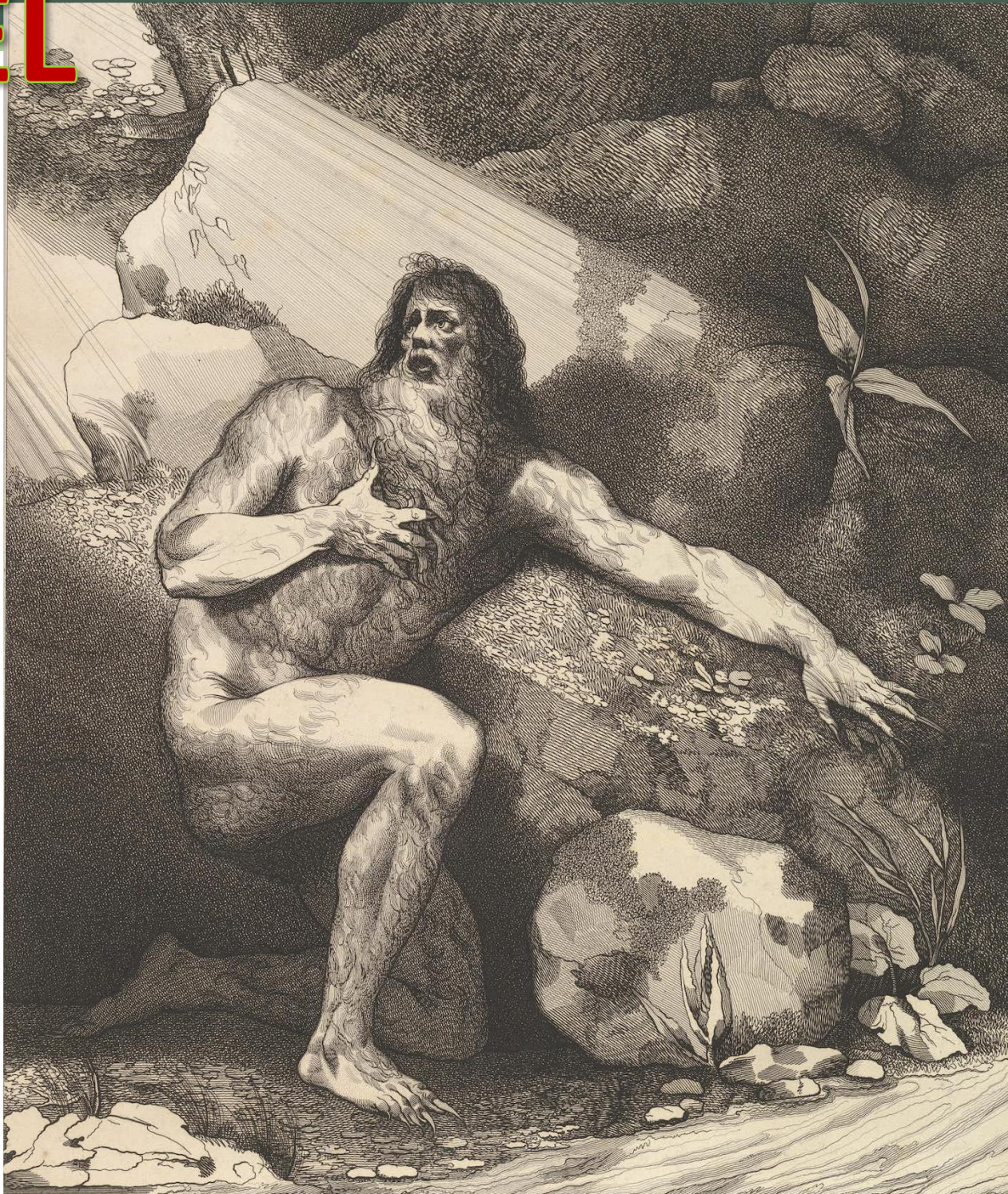
Daniel 4:19-25

25 That they shall drive thee from men, and thy dwelling shall be with the beasts of the field, and they shall make thee to eat grass as oxen, and they shall wet thee with the dew of heaven, and seven times shall pass over thee, till thou know that the most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever he will.



**HOWEVER
THIS
ACTUALLY
WORKED
OUT:**

**IT WAS
REAL.**



**MORE
THAN ONE
ARTIST
HAS TRIED
TO COME
UP WITH
HOW IT
MAY HAVE
BEEN.**

**THERE IS AN ACTUAL MEDICAL CONDITION THAT
MATCHES HIS SITUATION:**

DAVID GUZIK WRITES,

**“The form of insanity in which men think of
themselves as animals and imitate the behavior of
an animal has been observed. Some call it generally
insania zoanthropica [Clinical lycanthropy] and more
specifically in Nebuchadnezzar’s case, boanthropy,
the delusion that one is an ox.”**

Proverbs 21:11

**“The king's heart is in the hand of the LORD,
as the rivers of water:
he turneth it whithersoever he will.”**

Chris White says,

“There also appears to be in some cases occasional lucidity or coming back to normal for a brief spell, where the person can describe the feelings they are having...”

Chris White says,

“... This lucidity, in Nebuchadnezzar’s case, may have been an opportunity for him to repent, which we will now see was the ultimate goal of this judgment.”

Daniel 4:26

**26 And whereas they commanded to leave the
stump of the tree roots; thy kingdom shall be
sure unto thee,
After that thou shalt have known that the
heavens do rule.**

**THIS REALIZATION IS WHAT
ALL OF US MUST COME TO.**

**THE DIFFERENCE IS THAT NEBUCHADNEZZAR
HAD FURTHER TO FALL THAN SOME OF US IN
ORDER TO REALIZE THAT GOD, NOT US, IS THE
KING OF OUR LIVES AND EVERYTHING ELSE.**

Acts 20:21

21 Testifying both to the Jews, and also to the Greeks, **repentance** toward God, and **faith** toward our Lord Jesus Christ.

Daniel 4:27

27 Wherefore, O king, let my counsel be acceptable unto thee, and break off thy sins by righteousness, and thine iniquities by shewing mercy to the poor; if it may be a lengthening of thy tranquility.

**IT IS APPARENT THAT
DANIEL HAD ACTUAL AFFECTION FOR
KING NEBUCHADNEZZAR.**

HE TALKED TO HIM LIKE A FRIEND.

“Please stop sinning — perhaps we can lengthen the days before this happens.”

**NOTICE THAT DANIEL DOES NOT SUGGEST
IT CAN BE AVOIDED.**

28 All this came upon the king Nebuchadnezzar.

29 At the end of twelve months he walked in the palace of the kingdom of Babylon.

ONE FULL YEAR LATER. . .

DID NEBUCHADNEZZAR GET A “LENGTHENING OF HIS TRANQUILITY?”

30 The king spake, and said, Is not this great Babylon, that I have built for the house of the kingdom by the might of my power, and for the honour of my majesty?

BY NOW HE SHOULD HAVE KNOWN BETTER!

28 **All this** came upon the king Nebuchadnezzar.

1. DRIVEN FROM MEN.
2. LIVE WITH THE ANIMALS.
3. EAT GRASS.
4. SLEEP IN THE OUTDOORS/RAIN.
5. UNTIL HE LEARNS THAT THE MOST HIGH RULES.



**“Is not this great Babylon,
that I have built
for the house of the kingdom
by the might of my power,
and for the honour of my
majesty?”**



While the word was in the king's mouth, there fell a voice from heaven, saying, O king Nebuchadnezzar, to thee it is spoken; The kingdom is departed from thee.

32 And they shall drive thee from men, and thy dwelling shall be with the beasts of the field: they shall make thee to eat grass as oxen, and seven times shall pass over thee, until thou know that the most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever he will.

33 The same hour was the thing fulfilled upon Nebuchadnezzar: and he was driven from men, and did eat grass as oxen, and his body was wet with the dew of heaven, till his hairs were grown like eagles' feathers, and his nails like birds' claws.

PART OF NEBUCHADNEZZAR'S TESTIMONY IS THIS VOICE.

- HE REMEMBERED THE PREVIOUS DREAM.
- HE REMEMBERED THE REASON FOR WHAT WAS GOING TO HAPPEN TO HIM.

“THE MOST HIGH RULES IN THE KINGDOM OF MEN,
AND GIVES IT TO WHOMEVER HE CHOOSES.”

IN ANOTHER LESSON WE MENTIONED
“THE BABYLONIAN CHRONICLES”

MANY COMMENTATORS NOTE THAT THERE IS A
PERIOD IN NEBUCHADNEZZAR’S REIGN WHERE
THERE IS NO RECORD OF HIM DOING ANYTHING.

A VERY LOUD ARGUMENT FROM SILENCE.

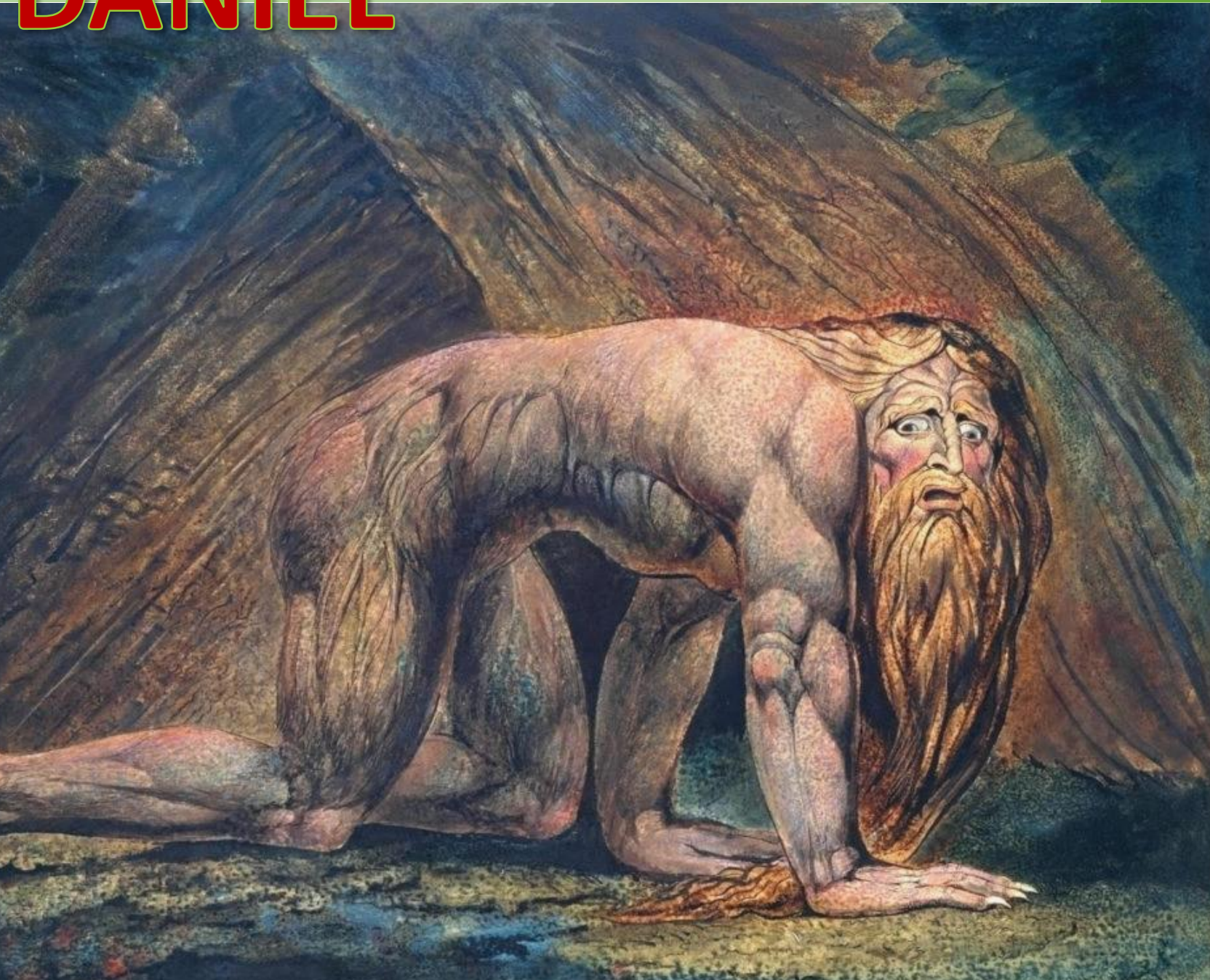
WATCH WHAT HAPPENS NEXT.

**THE ACCOUNT SWITCHES BACK TO THE FIRST
PERSON. (“I”, “ME”)**

**IT IS AT THE END OF THE SEVEN YEARS,
AND NEBUCHADNEZZAR CONTINUES HIS
TESTIMONY.**

HE RAISES HIS EYES TOWARD HEAVEN.





**IT'S AN ACT OF
SUBMISSION
AND
SURRENDER.
HE
ACKNOWLEDGES
HIS NEED OF
THE MOST HIGH
GOD.**

34 And at the end of the days I Nebuchadnezzar lifted up mine eyes unto heaven, and mine understanding returned unto me, and I blessed the most High, and I praised and honoured him that liveth for ever, whose dominion is an everlasting dominion, and his kingdom is from generation to generation:

35 And all the inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing: and he doeth according to his will in the army of heaven, and among the inhabitants of the earth: and none can stay his hand, or say unto him, What doest thou?

36 At the same time my reason returned unto me; and for the glory of my kingdom, mine honour and brightness returned unto me; and my counsellors and my lords sought unto me; and I was established in my kingdom, and excellent majesty was added unto me.

37 Now I Nebuchadnezzar praise and extol and honour the King of heaven, all whose works are truth, and his ways judgment: and those that walk in pride he is able to abase.

SOME OBVIOUS (AND NOT SO OBVIOUS) LESSONS

GOD IS GOD, AND WE ARE NOT.

SOME OBVIOUS (AND NOT SO OBVIOUS) LESSONS

WE OWE GOD EVERYTHING.

**SOME OBVIOUS
(AND NOT SO OBVIOUS)
LESSONS**

**GOD IS SOVEREIGN, AND
WE CAN TRUST HIM.**



**“Now I Nebuchadnezzar
praise and extol and
honour the King of
heaven, all whose works
are truth, and his ways
judgment: and those
that walk in pride he is
able to abase.”**

NEXT

CHAPTER 5

THE WRITING ON THE WALL