

The Sin of Entitlement: What have you earned? What do you deserve?

1st Corinthians 4:7b What do you have that you did not receive? If then you received it, why do you boast as if you did not receive it?

Chapter 4: Begins and Ends with Praises

- **Verses 1 - 3 and 37** form an *inclusio* of glories to “the King of heaven”
 - And consider the source, providing emphasis to the concluding line of the chapter: those who walk in pride he is able to humble.

Verse 17: A Theme Verse for Daniel – The Most High Exalts the Humble

- We’ll see a similar phrase to **verse 17**, again in **25** and **34**

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

1 Peter 5:5b - 6

5b “God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.”

6 Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you

Philippians 2:8b - 11

8b he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

9 Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name,

10 so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

11 and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Verse 19 – Daniel’s Perspective of Earthly Rulers and Governments

Romans 13:1 Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God.

1st Peter 2:17 Honor everyone. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the emperor.

1st Timothy 2:1 – 2

1 First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way.

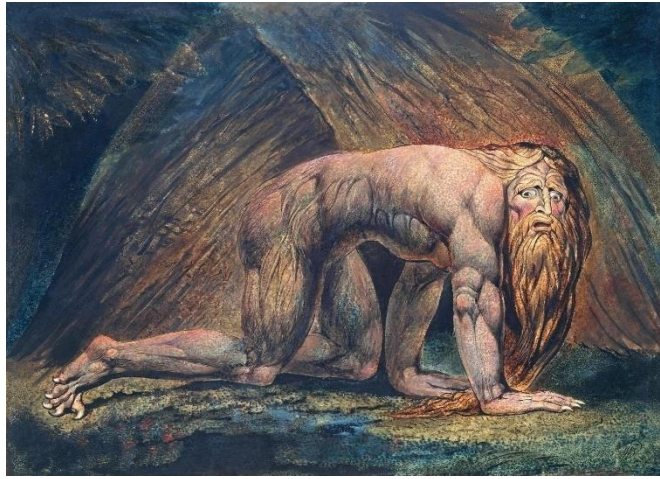
James 3:9 – 10

9 With it (our tongues) we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse people who are made in the likeness of God.

10 From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers, these things ought not to be so.



Verse 33 - The one who thought of himself in godlike terms, the true God made beastlike so that he would learn that he is merely human after all



William Blake's famous "Nebuchadnezzar" – 1795

A Fascinating Gap in Babylonian History

- No historical record of Nebuchadnezzar's governmental activity exists between 582 B.C. and 575 B.C.
 - This silence is deafening, especially when we bear in mind how ancient leaders liked to egotistically boast of their achievements.
- Nebuchadnezzar reigned a total of 43 years (605-562 B.C.)
 - This would place the events of chapter 4 toward the end of his reign.
- Abydenus, a Greek historian, wrote in 268 B.C. that it was known that for a time, Nebuchadnezzar had become "possessed by some god" and that he had "immediately disappeared."

Verse 37 - Now I, Nebuchadnezzar, praise and extol and honor the King of heaven

Psalm 148:10 – 13

10 Beasts and all livestock, creeping things and flying birds!

11 Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth!

12 Young men and maidens together, old men and children!

13 Let them praise the name of the LORD, for his name alone is exalted; his majesty is above earth and heaven.

