

Master Outlines of Daniel

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Theme 2 - God & Politics Do Mix

Daniel 4

(preached April 27, 1997)

- I. Nebuchadnezzar's testimony to God over Politics (vv. 1-37)
 - A. Theme: God and politics not only "mix"; God is Lord over politics (see repeated theme in verses 17, 25,32,37)
 - B. Nebuchadnezzar covenants with God
 - 1. before the whole realm (v. 1)
 - 2. for the good of the realm (v. 1b)
 - 3. by acknowledging God's grace & providence (v. 2)
 - 4. by acknowledging God's reign (v. 3)
 - 5. by obliging himself and his descendants (cf. v. 34d) to God's ways (vv. 34-37)
 - C. Nebuchadnezzar depends upon God
 - 1. by acknowledging the insufficiency of humanistic wisdom (vv. 6-9,18)
 - 2. by acknowledging his utter weakness (v. 35)
 - 3. by acknowledging that his wisdom, power, success comes from God (vv. 34-37)
 - D. Nebuchadnezzar rules under God
 - 1. He has come to "know" (v. 32) that God and politics mix
 - 2. He rejoices in God's reign (v. 34)
 - 3. He no longer fears man, but fears God (v. 35)
 - 4. He handles glory, splendor and power with humility (v. 36)
 - 5. He publicly honors God as the King who rules from heaven (v. 37a)
 - 6. He does not pick and choose which of God's works are true (v. 37b)
 - 7. He does not define his own justice, but looks to God alone (v. 37c)
 - 8. He recognizes the pride and arrogance involved in failing to have God's Lordship over politics (v. 37d)
- II. Angelic testimony to God over Politics (vv. 13-17)
- III. Daniel's testimony to God over Politics (vv. 19-27)
- IV. God's own testimony to His crown rights (vv. 31-33)