The Most High God
Ruler of Heaven and Earth

The Sovereign of Babylon Meets
the Sovereign God
Daniel 4
Lesson 4

Trinity Bible Church Sunday School
June 22, 2014
Why did God create the heavens and the earth?

- An eternal holy kingdom for Christ on earth
  - Revelation 11:15
  - Isaiah 9:6-7

- Revelation of God the Creator and Savior
  - Revelation 4:11; 5:9-14
  - John 17:4

- Christ is the Sovereign King and the Lamb
Daniel in historical context

- The fall of Jerusalem (605 B.C.)
- Hebrews 13:20-21 – the Everlasting Covenant
- Genesis 3:15 – the Seed of the woman
- Genesis 9:8-17 – man, animals, the earth
- Genesis 12:1-3, 7 – blessing, great nation, all nations, the Seed
- 2 Samuel 7; 23:5 – eternal kingdom of David
Daniel and the Course of History

- Daniel 2 – outline of world history
- Gold – Babylon
- Silver – Medes and Persians
- Bronze – Greek
- Iron – Roman
  - Iron mixed with clay
  - 10 final kings
- Everlasting Kingdom
Lessons from Daniel

- The sovereignty of God
- The believer in a sinful world
- The coming Son of Man
Outline of Daniel

- Daniel 1 – Resolve not to be defiled
- Daniel 2-7 (Aramaic section) – the course of world history with Gentile rule
- Daniel 8-12 – the place of the holy people (7:27) and the Beautiful Land (8:9)
Daniel 2-7 – Aramaic/Chiasm

- 4 Gentile Kingdoms (2)
  - Deliverance from Gentile wrath (3)
    - Gentile rule under the Sovereign God (4)
    - Gentile rule under the Sovereign God (5)
    - Deliverance from Gentile wrath (6)
  - 4 Gentile Kingdoms (7)
Daniel 4

- The golden age of world history
- The most sovereign of the rulers
- A counterfeit kingdom
- The absolute Sovereignty of God
Nebuchadnezzar – God’s agent (4:1-3)

- Claims high honor on the earth
- Tells of God’s signs and wonders done for him
- Proclaims God’s power and sovereignty
- Philippians 2:9-11 – all will confess Christ
A fearful dream to a man at ease (4:4-9)

- The power of God’s Word
- The mystery of God’s Word
- Daniel – God’s minister
Nebuchadnezzar’s dream (4:10-18)

▶ The tree
  – Ezekiel 31:1-14 – Assyria
  – Matt 13:31-32 – Kingdom of Heaven

▶ The watcher
  – Cut down the tree
  – Leave the stump
  – A man with the mind of a beast for 7 periods of time

▶ Most High rules over the realm of mankind
  – Bestows on it whom he wishes
  – Sets over it the lowliest of men – lowliest of station
  – Double meaning: Nebuchadnezzar or Christ (Phil 2)
Daniel’s Interpretation (4:19-27)

- Daniel’s compassion for Nebuchadnezzar
- The tree is Nebuchadnezzar
- Insanity for 7 times (years) – until lesson learned
- A call to repentance
Nebuchadnezzar’s Humiliation (4:28-36)

- Ignored the dream
- A voice from heaven
- Insanity – a hopeless estate
- Rescue – sovereign grace
The new Nebuchadnezzar

- Blessed, praised and honored the eternal God
- Acknowledged God’s rule and Kingdom
- Insignificance of inhabitants of the earth
- Absolute sovereignty
- Praise, exalt and honor the King of heaven
  - All His works are true and just
  - Able to humble the proud
The Most High is ruler over the realm of mankind

- Embracing the Sovereign God
  - “No one can ward off His hand, or say to Him what have you done?”

- The next step:
  - We praise, exalt and honor Him for the way that He leads us
  - We believe all His works are true and His ways are just