

Pastor Ron Case
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“Lessons from Nebuchadnezzar”

“It has seemed good to me to show the signs and wonders that the Most High God has done for me. How great are his signs, how mighty his wonders! His kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and his dominion endures from generation to generation.”

(Daniel 4:2-3)

Lesson #1: Ease Breeds Disease

Daniel

4:4 – “I, Nebuchadnezzar, was at ease in my house and prospering in my palace.”

The Natural Crusade

Luke 12:15-21 – (15) “And he (*Jesus*) said to them, ‘Take care, and be on your guard against all covetousness, for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions.’ (16) And he told them a parable, saying, ‘The land of a rich man produced plentifully, (17) and he thought to himself, ‘What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?’ (18) And he said, ‘I will do this: I will tear down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. (19) And I will say to my soul, *Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.*’ (20) But God said to him, ‘Fool! This night your soul is required of you, and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?’ (21) So is the one who lays up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God.”

Revelation 18:7-8 – (7) “As she glorified herself and lived in luxury, so give her a like measure of torment and mourning, since in her heart she says, *‘I sit as a queen, I am no widow, and mourning I shall never see.’* (8) For this reason her plagues will come in a single day, death and mourning and famine, and she will be burned up with fire; for mighty is the Lord God who has judged her.”

Beware Idle-Worship

Exodus 32:3-6 – (3) “So all the people took off the rings of gold that were in their ears and brought them to Aaron. (4) And he received the gold from their hand and fashioned it with a graving tool and made a golden calf. And they said, ‘These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!’ (5) When Aaron saw this, he built an altar before it. And Aaron made proclamation and said, ‘Tomorrow shall be a feast to the LORD.’ (6) And they rose up early the next day and offered burnt offerings and brought peace offerings. And the people sat down to eat and drink and rose up to play.”

Key Point: Those Who Seek God find True Rest

Response:

(1) Put on the Yoke of Discipleship

Matthew 11:28-29 – (28) “Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. (29) Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.”

(2) Put off Old Patterns

Hebrews 4:9-11 – (9) “So then, there remains a Sabbath rest for the people of God, (10) for whoever has entered God’s rest has also rested from his works as God did from his. (11) Let us therefore strive to enter that rest, so that no one may fall by the same sort of disobedience.”

Questions:

What impacted me the most in this message?

Is the worldly value of ease and comfort as the goal of life attractive to me? (Eccl. 2:10)

How do I both rest and produce in God’s kingdom? (John 15:4-5; Matthew 11:28-29)