

WHEN GOD TESTS YOU WITH SUCCESS

Unshakable! Thriving No Matter What They Throw at You Rick Warren

DANIEL 4:1-37 WHAT GETS US INTO TROUBLE

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| | "I was enjoying a time of peace and prosperity." | ." Daniel 4:4 | (CEV |

"I was saying to myself, 'Just look at this wonderful capital city that I have built by my own power and for my own glory!" Daniel 4:30 (CEV)

"The Lord detests all the proud of heart. Be sure of this: They will not go unpunished." Proverbs 16:5 (NIV)

Daniel 4:24-25

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"Accept my advice. Stop sinning and do what is right. Break from your wicked past and be merciful to the poor. Perhaps then you will continue to prosper."

Daniel 4:27 (NLT)

"All this happened to King Nebuchadnezzar. <u>Twelve months later</u>, as the king was walking on the roof of the royal palace of Babylon, he said, 'Is not this the great Babylon I have built as the royal residence, by my mighty power and for the glory of my majesty?' Even as the words were on his lips, a voice came from heaven, 'This is what is decreed for you, King Nebuchadnezzar: <u>Your royal authority has been taken from you</u>. You will be driven away from people and will live with the wild animals; you will eat grass like the ox. Seven times will pass by for you until you acknowledge that the Most High is sovereign over all kingdoms on earth and gives them to anyone he wishes.' Immediately what had been said about Nebuchadnezzar was fulfilled." Daniel 4:28-33 (NIV)

STEPS TO RECOVERY

- "After this time had passed, I, Nebuchadnezzar, <u>looked up</u> to heaven. My sanity returned." Daniel 4:34 (NLT)
- "My <u>sanity returned</u>, and I <u>praised and worshiped</u> the Most High and <u>honored</u> the one who lives forever." Daniel 4:34 (NLT)

WE GET BETTER WHEN WE REPLACE WITH

"Remember how the Lord your God led you all the way in the wilderness these forty years. . . . To humble and test you in order to know what was in your heart, whether or not you would keep his commands. He humbled you, causing you to hunger. . . . The Lord your God is bringing you into a good land—a land with brooks, streams, and deep springs. . . . a land with wheat and barley, vines and fig trees, pomegranates, olive oil and honey . . . a land where the rocks are iron and you can dig copper out of the hills. . . . When you have eaten and are satisfied, praise the Lord your God for the good land he has given you. Be careful that you do not forget the Lord your God, failing to observe his commands, his laws and his decrees that I am giving you this day. Otherwise, when you eat and are satisfied, when you build fine houses and settle down, and when your herds and flocks grow large and your silver and gold increase and all you have is multiplied, then your heart will become proud and you will forget the Lord your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery. . . . You may say to yourself, 'My power and the strength of my hands have produced this wealth for me.' But remember the Lord your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth. . . . If you ever forget the Lord your God and follow other gods and worship and bow down to them, I testify against you today that you will surely be destroyed. Like the nations the Lord destroyed before you." Deuteronomy 8:2-20 (NIV)

TRUTHS ABOUT GOD THAT STABILIZE MY LIFE

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| | "His rule is everlasting, and his kingdom is eternal." Daniel 4:34 (NLT) |
| • | "All the people of the earth are nothing compared to him." Daniel 4:35 (NLT) |
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| | "He does as he pleases among the angels of heaven and among the people of the earth. No one can stop him or say to him, 'What do you mean by doing these things?' and he is able to humble the proud." Daniel 4:35, 37 (NLT) |
| | "When my sanity returned to me, so did my honor and glory and kingdom. My advisers and nobles sought me out, and I was restored as head of my kingdom, with even greater honor than before." Daniel 4:36 (NLT) |

3.

"King Nebuchadnezzar sent this message to the people of every race and nation and language throughout the world: 'Peace and prosperity to you! I want you all to know about the miraculous signs and wonders the Most High God has performed for me." Daniel 4:1-2 (NLT)