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#### Service Times

##### Sunday

Bible Class: 9:30 A.M.  
Worship: 10:30 A.M. & 5 P.M.

##### Wednesday

Bible Study: 7 P.M.

##### Preacher:

Russ Earl

##### AM Sermon:

Be Happy! (Ps 128:1-4)

##### PM Sermon

Praying for the Church

##### Sunday AM Bible Class:

Paul Praschnik

##### Wednesday Bible Class:

The Bible and the Justice System  
– Bob Deffenbaugh

##### In SEARCH of the Lord’s Way

On Channel 6-2 Sundays @ 7:30 am

##### The Truth in Love

on Channel 19 Sundays @ 8am

##### The Gospel of Christ TV Program

on Saturday @ 7:30am on Channel 53

##### Prepared for the Lord’s Day

Podcast on BibleWayMedia

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The Oologah church of Christ only uses the **KJV, NKJV or ASV** translation of the Bible in classes & sermons.

## The Oologah Informer June 16<sup>th</sup> 2019

### Thoughts from the Preacher

#### “Man’s Knowledge and His Response”

If we are honest much of mankind knows what God expects from them, however man often has no desire to do it.

Man has to be humble enough to obey.

Micah 6:8

### **Sobering Lessons From Mighty Nebuchadnezzar**

Marvin Weir

It has always been heart wrenching to see people stubbornly spurn the words of Holy Writ. God graciously informs all of mankind, “Every scripture inspired of God is also profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for instruction which is in righteousness. That the man of God may be complete, furnished completely unto every good work” (2 Tim. 3:16-17). One might think the Holy Scriptures to be unprofitable the way many people avoid them. Not so!

In the experiences recorded in the fourth chapter of Daniel regarding King Nebuchadnezzar, there is something to reprove our selfishness, correct our actions, and instruct us in the righteousness of Jehovah God. May we profit from the ruin Nebuchadnezzar brought upon himself and the remedy for his plight! Nebuchadnezzar’s Privileges! The king was favored with many opportunities. In chapter two of Daniel, God reveals to the King the “great image” (v. 31) portraying earthly kingdoms and their destinies. The “image” also revealed that the God of heaven would “set up a kingdom which shall never be destroyed” (v.44). The king’s “wise men, enchanters, magicians, nor soothsayers” (v. 27) could interpret the vision, but Nebuchadnezzar was privileged to hear God’s prophet, Daniel, declare the meaning of his dream.

He also saw God’s mighty power in saving the three Hebrews from the fiery furnace (Dan. 3:23-26). This privilege motivated the king to issue an edict: “Therefore I make a decree, that every people, nation, and language, which speak any-thing amiss against the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, shall be cut in pieces, and their houses shall be made a dunghill; be-cause there is no other god that is able to deliver after this sort” (Dan. 3:29).

The king was privileged to be warned in a vision of the great tree being cut down and its branches severed (4:10-13). He was warned of his heart changing into a beast’s heart (v. 14) and was counseled to “break off [his] sins by righteousness, and [his] iniquities by showing mercy to the poor” (v. 27).

How many are there in this day of time that continually reject the privilege of hearing God's Word? The admonitions, warnings, and pleadings continue to sound forth from Holy Writ. God in His mercy encourages everyone to re-pent (Luke 13:3) and obey the gospel (Rom. 1:16), but many people turn a deaf ear to the privilege of hearing such a plea! One knows not when his privileges to attend to sacred matters will dry up. Nebuchadnezzar's Pride! "At the end of twelve months he was walking in the royal palace of Babylon. The king spake and said, Is not this great Babylon, which

I have built for the royal dwelling-place, by the might of my power and for the glory of my majesty" (Dan. 4:29-30)? The twelve months can represent God's grace, but such grace suddenly and unexpectedly came to an end. Nebuchadnezzar was convinced that all things were continuing as they always had and the warning from God was neglected and forgotten. The majority do likewise today! Some declare that on the royal palace (400 feet high) the king had a full view of the Great Babylon with some 25 streets intersecting each other (150 feet wide and 25 miles in length). The city had 100 brazen gates, and was a walled massive structure 300 feet high and 80 feet wide to allow two chariots to pass on top. The wall contained 250 towers. The river Euphrates ran through the middle of the city. The king could see the great bridge, the gorgeous temple, and the magnificent hanging gardens. Yes, his pride conquered him, and he said, "Is not this great Babylon, which I have built for the royal dwelling-place, by the might of my power and for the glory of my majesty" (v. 30). Do not the Scriptures declare that "Pride goeth before destruction, And a haughty spirit before a fall" (Prov. 16:18)?

**Nebuchadnezzar's Fall!** "While the word was in the king's mouth, there fell a voice from heaven, (saying), O king Nebuchadnezzar, to thee it is spoken: The kingdom is departed from thee: and thou shalt be driven from men; and thy dwelling shall be with the beasts of the field; thou shalt be made to eat grass as oxen; and seven times shall pass over thee; until thou know that the Most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever he will" (Dan. 4:31-32). The mighty king who was glorying in the grandeur of his own earthly kingdom was driven from the presence of men as a raving maniac or lunatic. The root cause of the king's problem was rebellion against God's Word. Sin, like lunacy, will separate us from the fellowship of God. People today must learn from the fall of this king and heed God's warning: "Whosoever goeth onward and abideth not in the teaching of Christ, hath not God: he that abideth in the teaching, the same hath both the Father and the Son" (2 John 9).

**Nebuchadnezzar's Restoration!** When the king lifted up his eyes toward heaven (acknowledging God) his understanding returned to him (Dan. 4:34). The prodigal did much the same when he came to himself and vowed to re-turn to the Father (Luke 15:17-20). Without un-ashamed obedience to God's Word, one today will find his lot far worse than Nebuchadnezzar's fate for a period of time ( cf. 2 Thess. 1:7-9).

Like the prodigal, one who is living in sin must come to himself (Luke 15:17). Upon swallowing his pride and acknowledging God and His ways, Nebuchadnezzar said, "[I] praise and extol and honor the King of heaven; for all his works are truth, and his ways justice; and those that walk in pride he is able to abase" (Dan. 4:37).