

Daniel 4:28

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

All this came upon the king Nebuchadnezzar.

Analysis

A time marker—'all this came upon the king Nebuchadnezzar'—confirms the prophecy's fulfillment. The phrase emphasizes comprehensive execution: not partial or symbolic, but complete realization of every detail Daniel predicted. This vindicated both Daniel's prophetic gift and God's sovereign control over history. The verse introduces narrative transition from prediction to fulfillment, heightening dramatic tension before describing the judgment's actual onset. The statement's brevity and matter-of-fact tone underscore inevitability: divine decrees execute without fail regardless of human power, status, or resistance. No earthly authority can prevent God's determined purposes from accomplishing their intended effects.

Historical Context

The precise timing of Nebuchadnezzar's madness remains historically unclear—Babylonian records (predictably) don't document the king's humiliation. However, gaps in dated documents around 582-575 BC might correspond to this period. The statement 'all this came upon' indicates the prophecy's elements fulfilled exactly as predicted—the beast-like existence, seven-year duration, eventual restoration. Ancient Near Eastern historiography regularly suppressed embarrassing events, making absence of Babylonian confirmation unsurprising. For Jewish exiles and subsequent believers, the fulfillment demonstrated prophecy's reliability and God's sovereignty over even the mightiest rulers. Historical silence from Babylon paradoxically confirms the narrative's plausibility—prideful empires don't advertise their kings' humiliations.

Related Passages

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Study Questions

1. Why does Scripture emphasize that divine predictions fulfill exactly ('all this came')?
2. How should the certain fulfillment of prophetic warnings affect our response to biblical warnings today?
3. What does God's ability to execute His decrees despite human power teach about ultimate authority?

Interlinear Text

כָּל	מָטָא	עַל	נְבוּכַדְנֶצַּר	מֶלֶךְ:
All	this came	upon	Nebuchadnezzar	the king
H3606	H4291	H5922	H5020	H4430

Additional Cross-References

Numbers 23:19 (Parallel theme): God is not a man, that he should lie; neither the son of man, that he should repent: hath he said, and shall he not do it? or hath he spoken, and shall he not make it good?