

Daniel 4:36

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

At the same time my reason returned unto me; and for the glory of my kingdom, mine honour and brightness returned unto me; and my counsellors and my lords sought unto me; and I was established in my kingdom, and excellent majesty was added unto me.

Analysis

Restoration culminates in full recovery: 'At the same time my reason returned unto me; and for the glory of my kingdom, mine honour and brightness returned unto me; and my counsellors and my lords sought unto me; and I was established in my kingdom, and excellent majesty was added unto me.' The timing 'at the same time' links spiritual transformation with practical restoration. The fourfold return—reason, honor, position, majesty—demonstrates comprehensiveness. Critically, officials 'sought unto me' suggests they recognized the king's restoration and welcomed his return. The phrase 'excellent majesty was added' indicates he received more than he lost—God's restoration exceeds our previous state when we humble ourselves.

Historical Context

Ancient Near Eastern courts required stable leadership. During the king's affliction, officials apparently managed affairs. Archaeological evidence shows Nebuchadnezzar's building projects continued late in reign, consistent with recovery and resumed activity. The seamless restoration to power suggests officials were prepared to receive him back, possibly having kept his condition private. Ancient royal succession was typically violent; the peaceful restoration

demonstrates God's providence preserving both king and kingdom during this extraordinary period.

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

1 John 4:8 — God is love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Study Questions

1. How does God's restoration exceeding what was lost demonstrate that humility and repentance lead to blessing greater than pride ever achieved?
2. What does the officials' acceptance of the restored king teach about God preserving relationships and positions when we submit to His discipline?

Interlinear Text

בָּה	א	זָמָן	וְ	מִנְדָּע	וְ	יָתַר	וְ	יְלִיק	רְ
הָ	At the same time	my reason		returned	unto me	and for the glory			
	H2166	H4486		H8421	H5922			H3367	
מַלְכּוֹת	מִן	פָּדוֹן	וְ	זָהָר	וְ	יָתַר	וְ	לְ	וְ
in my kingdom	mine honour	and brightness			returned	unto me			הָ
	H4437	H1923		H2122	H8421	H5922			
פָּדוֹבָב	וְ	וְ	וְ	וְ	וְ	וְ	וְ	מַלְכּוֹת	וְ
and my counsellors	and my lords	sought	unto me	in my kingdom					הָ
	H1907	H7261	H1156	H4437					
תְּהִקְנֹת	וְ	וְ	וְ	וְ	וְ	וְ	וְ	וְ	לְ
and I was established	majesty	and excellent	was added						הָ
	H8627	H7238	H3493	H3255					

Additional Cross-References

Proverbs 22:4 (References Lord): By humility and the fear of the LORD are riches, and honour, and life.

Daniel 4:34 (Kingdom): And at the end of the days I Nebuchadnezzar lifted up mine eyes unto heaven, and mine understanding returned unto me, and I blessed the most High, and I praised and honoured him that liveth for ever, whose dominion is an everlasting dominion, and his kingdom is from generation to generation:

Matthew 6:33 (Kingdom): But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

Daniel 4:32 (Kingdom): And they shall drive thee from men, and thy dwelling shall be with the beasts of the field: they shall make thee 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.

Job 13:12 (Parallel theme): Your remembrances are like unto ashes, your bodies to bodies of clay.

2 Corinthians 4:17 (Glory): For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory;

1 Samuel 2:30 (References Lord): Wherefore the LORD God of Israel saith, I said indeed that thy house, and the house of thy father, should walk before me for ever: but now the LORD saith, Be it far from me; for them that honour me I will honour, and they that despise me shall be lightly esteemed.
