

The Power of Repentance Series

Part 3: The Dangers of Pride

Ezekiel 18:20-32 The person who sins will die. The son will not bear the punishment for the father's iniquity, nor will the father bear the punishment for the son's iniquity; the righteousness of the righteous will be upon himself, and the wickedness of the wicked will be upon himself.

21 "But if the wicked man **turns from all his sins** which **he has committed** and **observes** all My statutes and **practices justice and righteousness**, he shall surely **live; he shall not die.**

22 All his transgressions which he has committed will not be remembered against him; **because of his righteousness which he has practiced, he will live.** 23 Do I have any pleasure in the death of the wicked," declares the Lord God, "rather than that he should turn from his ways and **live?**

24 "But when a righteous man **turns away** from his righteousness, commits iniquity and **does according** to all the abominations that a wicked man **does,**

will he live? **All his righteous deeds which he has done will not be remembered for his treachery which he has committed and his sin which he has committed; for them he will die.**

25 **Yet you say**, 'The way of the Lord is not right.' Hear now, O house of Israel! Is My way not right? Is it not your ways that are not right?

26 When a righteous man turns away from his righteousness, commits iniquity and **dies because of it**, for his iniquity which **he has committed he will die.**

27 Again, when a wicked man turns away from his wickedness which he has committed and **practices** justice and righteousness, **he will save his life.**

28 Because he considered and turned away from all his transgressions which he had committed, he shall surely **live**; he shall not **die.** 29 But the house of Israel says, 'The way of the Lord is not right.' Are My ways not right, O house of Israel? Is it not your ways that are not right?

30 "Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, each according to his conduct," declares the Lord God. "**Repent and turn away from all your**

transgressions, so that iniquity may not become a stumbling block to you.

31 Cast away from **you** all **your** transgressions which **you** have committed and make **yourselves** a new heart and a new spirit! For why will you **die**, O house of Israel? 32 **For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone who dies,**" declares the Lord God. **"Therefore, repent and live."**

A verse by verse analysis on this section:

Ezekiel 18:20-32 – Analysis:  /  **CAUSE (Human Actions)** &  /  **EFFECT**

 Rejects idols; avoids pagan practices |  Lives | 5–9 |  Does not oppress; returns collateral; keeps promises |  Lives | 7 | |  Does not steal; avoids exploitation  Lives | 7–8 |  Feeds the hungry; clothes the naked |  Lives | 7
 Avoids usury and excessive interest |  Lives | 8 |  Walks in God's statutes

 Practices idolatry |  Dies | 10–13 |  Commits violence or oppression |  Dies | 10–13 |  Steals, robs, exploits |  Dies | 10–13 |  Sexual immorality |  Dies | 11 |  Unjust business practices |  Dies | 12–13 |  Rejects God's laws | 12–13
 Righteous son of a wicked father: |  Lives | 14–17

- Sees father's sins and refuses them
- Practices justice and righteousness
- Helps the poor; avoids oppression

 **Wicked son of a righteous father:** |  Dies | 18

- Rejects father's righteousness
- Commits violence, idolatry, injustice
- Exploits the poor

 **Repentant person:** |  Lives | 21–22

- Turns from sin
- Restores what was stolen
- Practices righteousness

 Righteous person who turns to sin: |  Dies | 24

- Abandons righteousness
- Commits injustice
- **Refuses to repent**

 **FINAL PRINCIPLES:**

- Personal responsibility

– **Repentance = Life**

– **Rebellion = Death**

◻ God judges – individually | 25–32

◻ Life or ◻ Death

Ezekiel 33:11-16 Say to them, 'As I live!' declares the Lord God, 'I take no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but rather that the wicked **turn from his way and live. Turn back, turn back** from your evil ways! Why then will you die, O house of Israel?' 12 And you, son of man, say to your fellow citizens, 'The righteousness of a righteous man will not deliver him in the day of his transgression, and as for the wickedness of the wicked, he will not stumble because of it in the day **when he turns from his wickedness; whereas** a righteous man will not be able to live by his righteousness on the day when he commits sin.' 13 When I say to the righteous he will surely live, **and he so trusts in his righteousness that he commits iniquity, none of his righteous deeds will be remembered;** but in that same iniquity of his which he has committed **he will die.** 14 But when I say to the wicked, 'You will surely die,' and **he turns from his sin and practices justice and righteousness,**

15 if a wicked man restores a pledge, pays back what he has taken by robbery, **walks by the statutes** which ensure life without committing iniquity, **he shall surely live; he shall not die.** 16 None of his sins that he has committed will be remembered against him. He has **practiced** justice and righteousness; **he shall surely live.**

Isaiah 2:12 For the Lord of hosts will have a day of reckoning Against **everyone** who is **proud and lofty** And against everyone who is **lifted up**, That he may **be abased**.

17 The **pride** of man will be **humbled** And the loftiness of men will be **abased**; And **the Lord alone** will be exalted in that day,

Proverbs 8:13 "**The fear of the LORD is to hate evil; Pride and arrogance and the evil way** And the **perverted mouth**, **I hate.**

Proverbs 11: 2 When **pride** comes, then comes dishonour, But with the **humble** is wisdom.

Proverbs 16:18 Pride goes before destruction, And a **haughty** spirit before stumbling.

Proverbs 19: 23 A man's **pride** will bring him low, But a **humble spirit** will obtain **honor**.

He conquered Jerusalem and exiled the people of Judah -**Jeremiah 29:1-10**

Key References: Jer 21:2–10; 22:25; 25:1–14; 27:6; 29:1–10; 32:28; 43:10; Chapters 50–51.

He is famous for the massive building projects in Babylon, including the Ishtar gate. Ishtar being a pagan God.

A link : https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ishtar_Gate

In the Hebrew scriptures this King turns up in the books of Daniel and Jeremiah.,

His Father was actually the founder of the Babylonian empire.

The great King Nebuchadnezzar II is considered the greatest King of Babylon both historically and biblically.

Character Traits:

*Character traits are the qualities, values, and behaviours that define how a person consistently **thinks, feels, and acts**, often reflecting their morals and ethics. They describe who someone is at their core, rather than just what they do in a single moment.*

*(**Romans 9:17**, refers back To Exodus 4)*

Daniel 1:1-2 In the third year of the reign of Jehoiakim king of Judah, Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came to Jerusalem and besieged it. 2 **The Lord gave** Jehoiakim king of Judah into his hand, along with some of the vessels of the house of God; and he brought them to the land of Shinar, **to the house of his god**, and he brought the vessels into the treasury **of his god**.

Daniel 1:18-20 Then at the end of the days which the king had specified for presenting them, the commander of the officials presented them before Nebuchadnezzar. 19 The king talked with them, and out of them all not one was found like Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah; so they entered the king's personal service. 20 As for every matter of wisdom and understanding about which the king consulted them, **he found them ten times better than all the magicians and conjurers who were in all his realm.**

Daniel 2:46-47 Then King Nebuchadnezzar fell on his face and did homage to Daniel, and gave orders to present to him an offering and fragrant incense.

47 The king answered Daniel and said, "Surely your God is a God of gods and a Lord of kings and a revealer of mysteries, since you have been able to reveal this mystery."

An acronym for Pride:

P-ersonal

R-ule

Instead of

D-ivine

E-dict (An **edict** is a **ruler's spoken or written command that establishes law or action.**)

Daniel 4:30 The king reflected and said, 'Is this not Babylon the great, which **I myself** have built as a royal residence by the might of **MY power** and for the **glory of MY majesty?**'

Daniel 4:31-32 While the word was in the king's mouth, a voice came from heaven, saying, 'King Nebuchadnezzar, to **you** it is declared: sovereignty has been removed from **you**, 32 and **you** will be driven away from mankind, and **your** dwelling place will be with the beasts of the field. **You** will be given grass to eat like cattle, and seven periods of time will pass over **you** until **you**

recognize that the Most High is ruler over the realm of mankind and **bestows it on whomever He wishes.'**

Daniel 4:33 Immediately the word concerning Nebuchadnezzar was fulfilled; and he was driven away from mankind and began eating grass like cattle, and his body was drenched with the dew of heaven until his hair had grown like eagles' feathers and his nails like birds' claws.

Daniel 4:34-37 "But at the end of that period, I, Nebuchadnezzar, **raised my eyes toward heaven** and **my reason returned to me**, and I blessed the Most High and praised and honored Him who lives forever; For **His** dominion is an everlasting dominion, And **His** kingdom endures from generation to generation. 35 "All the inhabitants of the earth are accounted as nothing, But **He does** according to **His will** in the host of heaven And among the inhabitants of earth; And no one can ward off **His** hand Or say to **Him**, 'What have You done?'

36 At that time **my reason returned to me**. And **my** majesty and splendor were restored to **me for the glory of my kingdom**, and **my** counselors and

my nobles began seeking **me** out; so **I** was reestablished in **my** sovereignty, and surpassing greatness was added to **me**. 37 Now **I**, Nebuchadnezzar, **praise, exalt and honor the King of heaven, for all His works are true and His ways just, and He is able to humble those who walk in pride.**"