

**P256**

**GRACE NOTES RADIO PROGRAM**

**THEME: Taking a stand - part 6**

**SONGS: GRACE STEPPED FORTH IN MY PLACE**

**LORD I OFFER MY LIFE**

**INTRO: Proverbs 16:18 says...**

**Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall.**

**When our faith turns to sight, we need to be careful not to become overconfident and take credit for the outcome. Moses was not allowed to enter the Promised Land because he insinuated that both he and God would bring water from the rock. Hezekiah fell prey to pride after he became successful. He bragged of 'his' riches and showed them to the pagan kings - who eventually overtook his kingdom. Today on Grace Notes, Barbara Sandbek, will take a look at how Daniel handled the miracle he received from God.**

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**So far, Daniel has resisted the temptations against his body and soul. Let's see how he fairs out in this PRIDE of life test – a test of his spirit.**

**On our last program we found Daniel conducting a praise party in the middle of the night after God revealed King Nebuchadnezzar's dream to him. From there Daniel went to Arioch, the commander of the king's guard, and asked for an audience with the king to explain the dream. Daniel 2:26-27 reads...**

**The king asked Daniel, "Are you able to tell me what I saw in my dream and interpret it?" Daniel replied, "No wise man, enchanter, magician or diviner can explain to the king the mystery he has asked about, BUT there is a God in heaven who reveals mysteries. He has shown King Nebuchadnezzar what will happen in days to come."**

**Daniel then revealed the dream and concluded with the statement in verse 45b...**

**"The GREAT GOD has shown the king what will take place in the future. The dream is true and the interpretation is trustworthy."**

**It was Daniel's chance to make a name for himself, but instead he made sure Jehovah God got the credit. Why? Because this was a natural response from the grateful heart of a man sold out to the Lord. It didn't even matter that he was speaking to the most powerful PAGAN ruler who probably didn't care a lick about his God.**

**I wonder how many times we assess the recipient or our surroundings before we praise God. Are we truly grateful? Or is our praise a learned and calculated**

**response? Jesus reminds us in Matthew 12:34 that what we say reveals what's inside our hearts. It reads...**

**“Out of the overflow of the heart the mouth speaks.”**

**If we love the Lord, we won't be able to keep silent about His blessings, no matter where we are or whom we're with. We need to assess where our heart is. 1 John 2:15-16 states...**

**Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For everything in the world – the cravings of sinful man, the lust of the eyes, and the BOASTING of what he has and does (that's pride) comes not from the Father but from the world.**

**James 4:4-6, written to Believers in Christ, reads...**

**You adulterous people, don't you know that friendship with the world is HATRED toward God? Anyone who chooses to be a friend of the world becomes an ENEMY of God. Or do you think the Scripture says, without reason, that the spirit he caused to live in us envies intensely? But He gives us more grace. That is why Scripture says,**

**“God OPPOSES the proud, but gives Grace to the humble.”**

**God gave us His grace in the form of His Son, Jesus, who worked a mighty work on the cross for us. He took our place – he died for our sin. We were all guilty of a transgression against Almighty God. We were enemies because we chose to follow the ways of the world. If we think we're good enough, to warrant God's grace, or earn His acceptance, we're mistaken. God's grace is given only to those who realize they need a Savior. Ephesians 2:8-9 states it so clearly...**

**...By grace are you saved, through faith, and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God. Not of works lest any man should boast.**

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\*\*\* GRACE STEPPED FORTH \*\*\*  
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**A proud attitude heads the list of the seven things in Proverbs 6:16-19 that God hates.**

**Proverbs 16:5 says...**

**The LORD DETESTS all the proud of heart. Be sure of this: They will not go unpunished.**

**Pride has consequences. Contrast the outcome of pride with that of humility in these verses..**

**Proverbs 11:2...**

**When pride comes, then comes DISGRACE, but with humility comes WISDOM.**

**Proverbs 18:12...**

**Before his DOWNFALL a man's heart is proud, but humility comes before HONOR.**

**This is what the LORD says in Jeremiah 8:23-24...**

**"Let not the wise man boast of his wisdom or the strong man boast of his strength or the rich man boast of his riches, but let him who boasts boast about this: that he understands and knows Me, that I am the LORD, who exercises kindness, justice and righteousness on earth, for in these I delight," declares the LORD.**

**Matthew 23:12 says...**

**...whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted.**

**And so was the case with Daniel. Listen to what the king did in response to Daniel, as recorded in Daniel 2:46-49...**

**King Nebuchadnezzar fell prostrate before Daniel and paid him honor and ordered that an offering and incense be presented to him. The king said to Daniel,**

**"Surely your God is the God of gods and the Lord of kings and a revealer of mysteries, for you were able to reveal this mystery."**

**This mighty pagan ruler was so impressed with Daniel's demonstration of faith that he proclaimed Jehovah God as the one true God and commanded that all the people in his kingdom believe or be thrown in the furnace.**

**This story shows us the impact one person, solely dedicated to God, can make. May we surrender our pride to God like Daniel did so that someone else can believe.**

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**\*\*\* LORD I OFFER MY LIFE \*\*\***  
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**or visit us at our web site at [www.gracenotesradio.com](http://www.gracenotesradio.com).**

**Until next time, let your grace notes be a song of praise!**