

October 1, 2025

Living Way

Opening Hymn: LSB 834 O God, O Lord of Heaven and Earth
Lecture Hymn: LSB 578 Thy Strong Word



Why do you think there are so few [dreams]?

In many and various ways, God spoke to His people of old by the prophets.
But now in these last days, He has spoken to us by His Son.

- LSB 247
- Evening Prayer

What do we know about Dreams?

There are many opinions about why we dream and what they mean.

What is a good way to avoid nightmares?

Mental Illness & King Nebuchadnezzar in Daniel 4

Genesis 3:17: All creation suffers the effects of sin.
Romans 8:18–25: All creation suffers the effects of sin and longs for Christ's return

Mental illness is a real struggle(see quote), but we must refrain from calling specific instances not found in the Bible a curse from God. When we do this, it is an assertion that we know the mind of God. Isaiah 55 reminds us that He is God and we are not. We are His dearly loved people, and we rest confidently in what He reveals to us about Himself in His Holy Scriptures.

Isaiah 55:8-9: God's thoughts and ways are not our own.

"It is estimated that 1 in 5 adults will experience a diagnosable mental illness in any given year. (This figure is 1 in 6 for children between ages 6 and 17.) The more prevalent illnesses, which account for 80% of cases, are the anxiety disorders, major depression, the substance use disorders and the trauma-based disorders."

<https://www.lcms.org/social-issues/mental-health>

Daniel 4

Law Themes

Verse 30: The King's hubris & the First Commandment

Verses 31-32: The First Use of the Law

Verse 37: The Second Use of the Law

Verses 17, 25-26, 34-36: "Authority in this world is established by God alone."

Gospel Themes

Verse 27: Opportunity to repent

Verses 2-3, 34-37: God's response to the king

What is the main emphasis of Daniel 4?

"Virtually every chapter of Daniel emphasizes the certainty of God's sovereign control over all events among humans. This is no less true of the account of Nebuchadnezzar's dream in Daniel 4."

-Rev. Dr. A.E. Steinmann