How could I stand here and watch the sun rise,
Follow the mountains where they touch the sky
Ponder the vastness and the depths of the sea
And think for a moment the point of it all was to make
much of me

This is Your love, oh God
Not to make much of me
But to send Your own Son
So that we could make much of You
For all eternity

Daniel 4:28–30 “But all these things did happen to King Nebuchadnezzar. Twelve months later he was taking a
walk on the flat roof of the royal palace in Babylon. As he
looked out across the city, he said, ‘Look at this great city
of Babylon! By my own mighty power, I have built this
beautiful city as my royal residence to display my majestic
splendor.’” (NLT)
- In the form of a square, 14 miles on each side, and of enormous magnitude

- The brick wall was 56 miles long, 300 feet high, 25 feet thick with another wall 75 feet behind the first wall, and the wall extended 35 feet below the ground

- 250 towers that were 450 feet high

- A wide and deep moat that encircled the city

- The Euphrates River also flowed through the middle of the city. Ferry boats and a 1/2 mi. long bridge with drawbridges closed at night

- "Hanging Gardens" (one of the wonders of the ancient world) and water was raised from the river by hydraulic pumps

- Eight massive gates that led to the inner city and 100 brass gates

- Streets were paved with stone slabs 3 feet square

- Golden image of Baal and the Golden Table (both weighing over 50,000 lbs of solid gold.)
-2 golden lions, a solid gold human figure (18 feet high)
Daniel 4:30 As he looked out across the city, he said, ‘Look at this great city of Babylon! By my own mighty power, I have built this beautiful city as my royal residence to display my majestic splendor.’ (NLT)

Daniel 4:31-32 “While these words were still in his mouth, a voice called down from heaven, ‘O King Nebuchadnezzar, this message is for you! You are no longer ruler of this kingdom. You will be driven from human society. You will live in the fields with the wild animals, and you will eat grass like a cow. Seven periods of time will pass while you live this way, until you learn that the Most High rules over the kingdoms of the world and gives them to anyone he chooses.

Daniel 4:33 “That same hour the judgment was fulfilled, and Nebuchadnezzar was driven from human society. He ate grass like a cow, and he was drenched with the dew of heaven. He lived this way until his hair was as long as eagles’ feathers and his nails were like birds’ claws.

Daniel 4:34-37 “After this time had passed, I, Nebuchadnezzar, looked up to heaven. My sanity returned, and I praised and worshiped the Most High and honored the one who lives forever. His rule is everlasting, and his
kingdom is eternal. All the people of the earth are nothing compared to him. He does as he pleases among the angels of heaven and among the people of the earth. No one can stop him or say to him, 'What do you mean by doing these things?' “When my sanity returned to me, so did my honor and glory and kingdom. My advisers and nobles sought me out, and I was restored as head of my kingdom, with even greater honor than before. “Now I, Nebuchadnezzar, praise and glorify and honor the King of heaven. All his acts are just and true, and he is able to humble the proud.”

2 Chronicles 26 All the people of Judah had crowned Amaziah’s sixteen-year-old son, Uzziah, as king in place of his father. After his father’s death, Uzziah rebuilt the town of Elath and restored it to Judah. Uzziah was sixteen years old when he became king, and he reigned in Jerusalem fifty-two years. He did what was pleasing in the LORD’s sight, just as his father, Amaziah, had done. Uzziah sought God during the days of Zechariah, who taught him to fear God. And as long as the king sought guidance from the LOR, God gave him success. (NLT)

Paraphrased - 2 Chronicles 26:6-15 Uzziah declared war on the Philistines and broke down the walls of Gath - he built new towns - God helped him in his wars against the Philistines, - his fame spread even to Egypt, for he had become very powerful. Uzziah built fortified towers in Jerusalem. He constructed forts in the wilderness and dug many water cisterns, because he kept great herds of livestock - He loved the soil. He had many workers - had an army of well-trained warriors - The army consisted of 307,500 men, all elite troops. Uzziah provided the entire
army with shields, spears, helmets, coats of mail, bows, and sling stones - he built structures on the walls of Jerusalem, designed by experts to protect those who shot arrows and hurled large stones from the towers and the corners of the wall.

15b - His fame spread far and wide, for the LORD gave him marvelous help, and he became very powerful. But when he had become powerful, he also became proud, which led to his downfall. He sinned against the LORD his God by entering the sanctuary of the LORD’s Temple and personally burning incense on the incense altar. Azariah the high priest went in after him with eighty other priests of the LORD, all brave men. They confronted King Uzziah and said, “It is not for you, Uzziah, to burn incense to the LORD. That is the work of the priests alone, the descendants of Aaron who are set apart for this work. Get out of the sanctuary, for you have sinned. The LORD God will not honor you for this!” Uzziah, who was holding an incense burner, became furious. But as he was standing there raging at the priests before the incense altar in the LORD’s Temple, leprosy suddenly broke out on his forehead. When Azariah the high priest and all the other priests saw the leprosy, they rushed him out. And the king himself was eager to get out because the LORD had struck him. So King Uzziah had leprosy until the day he died. He lived in isolation in a separate house, for he was excluded from the Temple of the LORD. His son Jotham was put in charge of the royal palace, and he governed the people of the land.

2 Corinthians 4:1 Therefore, since we do hold and engage in this ministry by the mercy of God [granting us favor, benefits, opportunities, and especially salvation], we do
not get discouraged (spiritless and despondent with fear) or become faint with weariness and exhaustion. (AMP)

Mark 12:41–44 (NLT)

41 Jesus sat down near the collection box in the Temple and watched as the crowds dropped in their money. Many rich people put in large amounts. 42 Then a poor widow came and dropped in two small coins. 43 Jesus called his disciples to him and said, “I tell you the truth, this poor widow has given more than all the others who are making contributions. 44 For they gave a tiny part of their surplus, but she, poor as she is, has given everything she had to live on.”

Acts 17:26 (NIV84)

26 From one man he made every nation of men, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and he determined the times set for them and the exact places where they should live.