

Daniel 5: The Writing on the Wall

Jeremiah 25:11 (NIV)

11 This whole country will become a desolate wasteland, and these nations will serve the king of Babylon seventy years.

By its nature, faithfulness requires that your resolve stand the test of time. It requires endurance.

Daniel 5:1-4 (NLT)

Many years later King Belshazzar gave a great feast for 1,000 of his nobles, and he drank wine with them. 2 While Belshazzar was drinking the wine, he gave orders to bring in the gold and silver cups that his predecessor, Nebuchadnezzar, had taken from the Temple in Jerusalem. He wanted to drink from them with his nobles, his wives, and his concubines. 3 So they brought these gold cups taken from the Temple, the house of God in Jerusalem, and the king and his nobles, his wives, and his concubines drank from them. 4 While they drank from them they praised their idols made of gold, silver, bronze, iron, wood, and stone.

Daniel 5:5-6 (NLT)

5 Suddenly, they saw the fingers of a human hand writing on the plaster wall of the king's palace, near the lampstand. The king himself saw the hand as it wrote, 6 and his face turned pale with fright. His knees knocked together in fear and his legs gave way beneath him.

Daniel 5:17-20 (NLT)

Keep your gifts or give them to someone else, but I will tell you what the writing means. 18 Your Majesty, the Most High God gave sovereignty, majesty, glory, and honor to your predecessor, Nebuchadnezzar. 19 He made him so great that people of all races and nations and languages trembled before him in fear. He killed those he wanted to kill and spared those he wanted to spare. He honored those he wanted to honor and disgraced those he wanted to disgrace. 20 But when his heart and mind were puffed up with arrogance, he was brought down from his royal throne and stripped of his glory.

Daniel 5:22-28 (NLT)

22 "You are his successor, O Belshazzar, and you knew all this, yet you have not humbled yourself. 23 For you have proudly defied the Lord of heaven and have had these cups from his Temple brought before you. You and your nobles and your wives and concubines have been drinking wine from them while praising gods of silver, gold, bronze, iron, wood, and stone—gods that neither see nor hear nor know anything at all. But you have not honored the God who gives you the breath of life and controls your destiny! 24 So God has sent this hand to write this message.

25 "This is the message that was written: Mene, mene, tekel, and Parsin. 26 This is what these words mean:

Mene means 'numbered'—God has numbered the days of your reign and has brought it to an end.

27 Tekel means 'weighed'—you have been weighed on the balances and have not measured up.

28 Parsin means 'divided'—your kingdom has been divided and given to the Medes and Persians."

Daniel 5:30-31 (NLT)

30 That very night Belshazzar the Chaldean king was killed. 31 And Darius the Mede received the kingdom, being about sixty-two years old.

Genesis 1:27-28

27 So God created human beings in his own image.

**In the image of God he created them;
male and female he created them.**

28 Then God blessed them and said, "Be fruitful and multiply. Fill the earth and govern it. Reign over the fish in the sea, the birds in the sky, and all the animals that scurry along the ground."

John 16:33b (NLT)

Here on earth you will have many trials and sorrows. But take heart, because I have overcome the world.

Matt 16:25 (NLT)

25 If you try to hang on to your life, you will lose it. But if you give up your life for my sake, you will save it.

Mark 8:36 (ESV)

36 For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul?

If Belshazzar was judged on the basis of having seen Nebuchadnezzar's example, consider what we are held accountable to after having seen Beshazzar's example.