



# DANIEL 5

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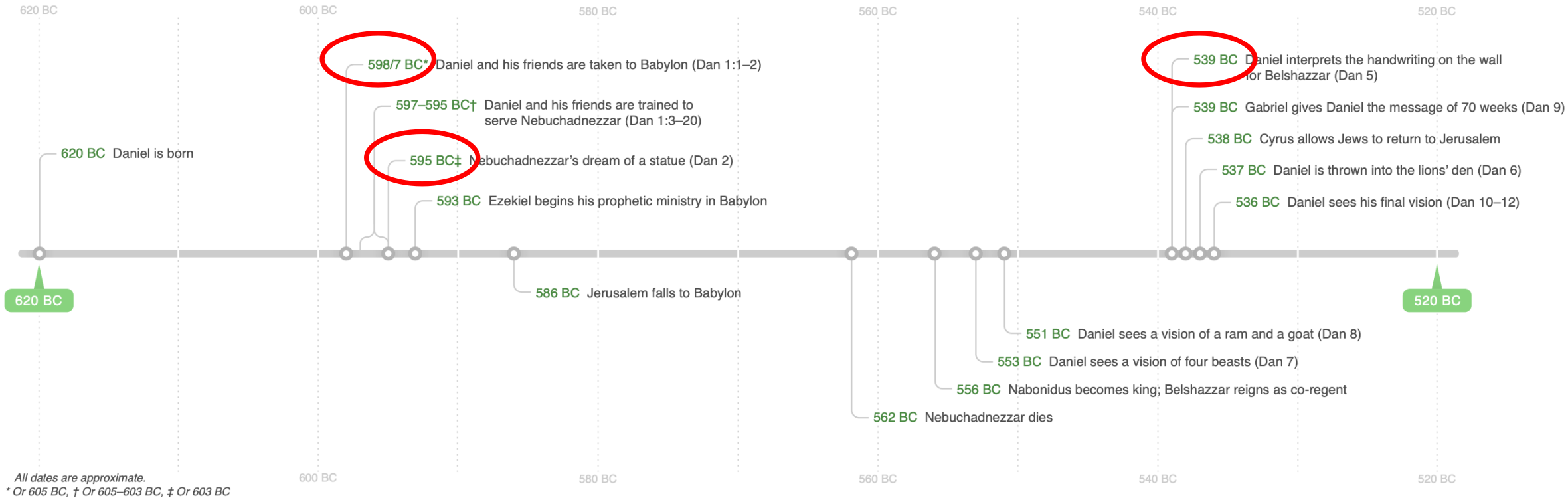
# WRITING ON THE WALL

Daniel 5

# Book of Daniel

- Chapter 1-6 → Narratives of Daniel and friends
- Chapter 7-12 → Prophecies through to end times

# The Life of Daniel



# The Banquet

Nebuchadnezzar



Nabonidus



Belshazzar



co-regents



# The Banquet

## Daniel 5:1-4 (NIV)

King Belshazzar gave a great banquet for a thousand of his nobles and drank wine with them.

While Belshazzar was drinking his wine, he gave orders to bring in the gold and silver goblets that Nebuchadnezzar his father had taken from the temple in Jerusalem, so that the king and his nobles, his wives and his concubines might drink from them.

So they brought in the gold goblets that had been taken from the temple of God in Jerusalem, and the king and his nobles, his wives and his concubines drank from them.

As they drank the wine, they praised the gods of gold and silver, of bronze, iron, wood and stone.

## Isaiah 52:1

Depart, depart, go out from there,  
touch no unclean thing;  
go out from it and be pure,  
you who carry the vessels of the Lord's house.





## 2 Corinthians 4:7

But we have this treasure in earthen vessels,  
so that the surpassing greatness of the power will be of God  
and not from ourselves;



# Reflections from Daniel 5

1. How are you honouring the sacred vessel that is you?



# Daniel's Reputation

## <sup>NIV</sup> Daniel 5:11-12

There is a man in your kingdom who has the **spirit of the holy gods** in him. In the time of your father he was found to have **insight** and **intelligence** and **wisdom like that of the gods**. Your father, King Nebuchadnezzar, appointed him **chief** of the magicians, enchanters, astrologers and diviners.

He did this because Daniel, whom the king called Belteshazzar, was found to have a **keen mind** and **knowledge** and **understanding**, and also the **ability to interpret dreams, explain riddles** and **solve difficult problems**. Call for Daniel, and he will tell you what the writing means.”

# Reflections from Daniel 5

1. How are you honouring the sacred vessel that is you?
2. What is your reputation?

NET Prov 27:21

As the crucible is for silver and the furnace is for gold,  
so a person is proved by the praise he receives.

# Daniel before Belshazzar

## Daniel 5:13–16

So Daniel was brought before the king, and the king said to him, “Are you Daniel, one of the exiles my father the king brought from Judah?”

I have heard that the spirit of the gods is in you and that you have insight, intelligence and outstanding wisdom.

The wise men and enchanters were brought before me to read this writing and tell me what it means, but they could not explain it.

Now I have heard that you are able to give interpretations and to solve difficult problems. If you can read this writing and tell me what it means, you will be clothed in purple and have a gold chain placed around your neck, and you will be made the third highest ruler in the kingdom.”

# Daniel before Belshazzar

## Daniel 5:17

Then Daniel answered the king, “You may keep your gifts for yourself and give your rewards to someone else. Nevertheless, I will read the writing for the king and tell him what it means.

# The Interpretation

1. Keep your gifts
2. Your father acknowledged the Most High God
3. You have exalted yourself against the Lord of heaven
4. Mene → God has numbered your kingdom
5. Tekel → God has weighed you and found you deficient
6. Peres → God has divided your kingdom and gave it to the Medes & Persians



# Reflections from Daniel 5

1. How are you honouring the sacred vessel that is you?
2. What is your reputation?
3. How free are you to witness to God's work?

# English expressions from the Bible

1. Bite the dust
2. Blind leading the blind
3. By the skin of your teeth
4. A leopard cannot change its spots
5. Cast the first stone
6. Drop in the bucket
7. Fall from grace
8. Fly in the ointment
9. Go the extra mile
10. No rest for the wicked
11. The powers that be
12. There's nothing new under the sun
13. The writing is on the wall

# Reflections from Daniel 5

1. How are you honouring the sacred vessel that is you?
2. What is your reputation?
3. How free are you to witness to God's work?
4. Can you read the writing on the wall?

# Reflections from Daniel 5

1. How are you honouring the sacred vessel that is you?
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4. Can you read the writing on the wall?
5. Measured, weighed, found wanting.

# Egyptian Judgment Scene



## Hebrews 9:27

...it is appointed for men to die once and after this comes judgment,



# Measured, weighed, found wanting

## Romans 3:10-12, 23-24

There is no one righteous, not even one;  
there is no one who understands;  
there is no one who seeks God.

All have turned away,  
they have together become worthless;  
there is no one who does good,  
not even one.”

# Measured, weighed, found wanting

**Romans 3:23-24**

...for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,  
and all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.



# Measured, weighed, found perfect

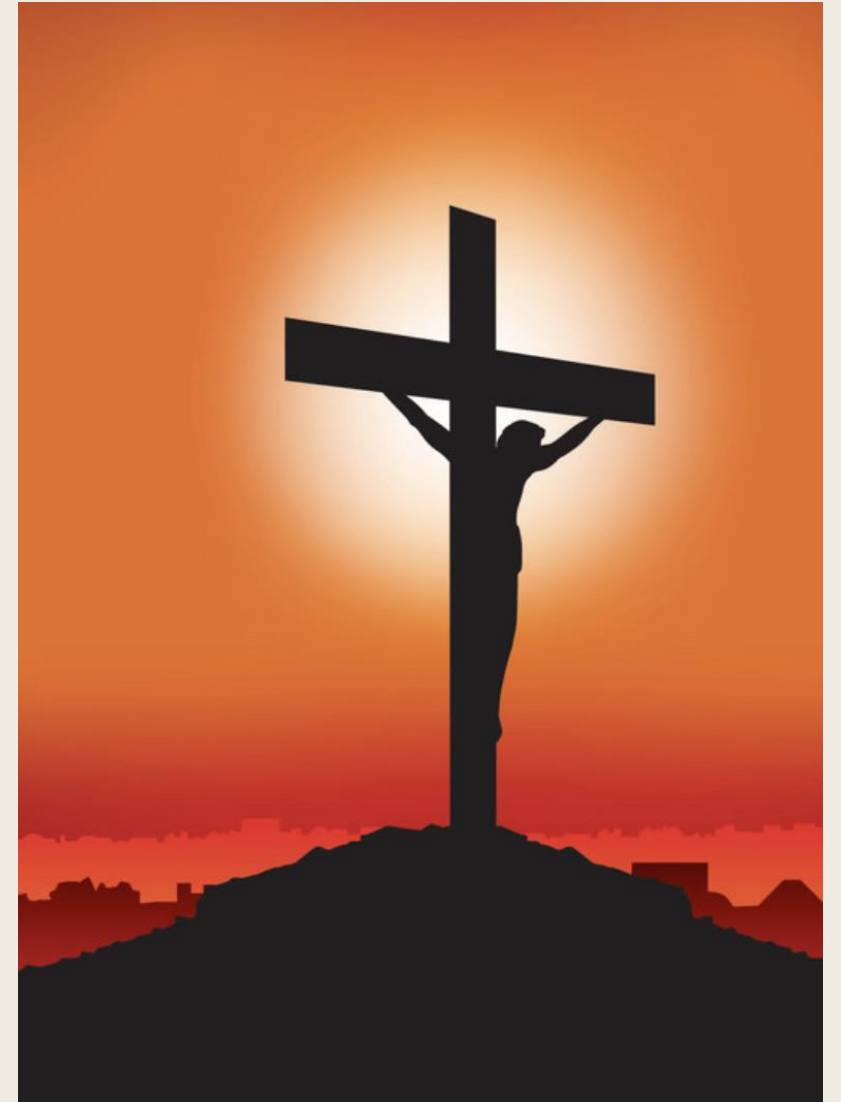
## Romans 8:1-4

Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus...

For what the law was powerless to do...

God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh to be a sin offering...

in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fully met in us.



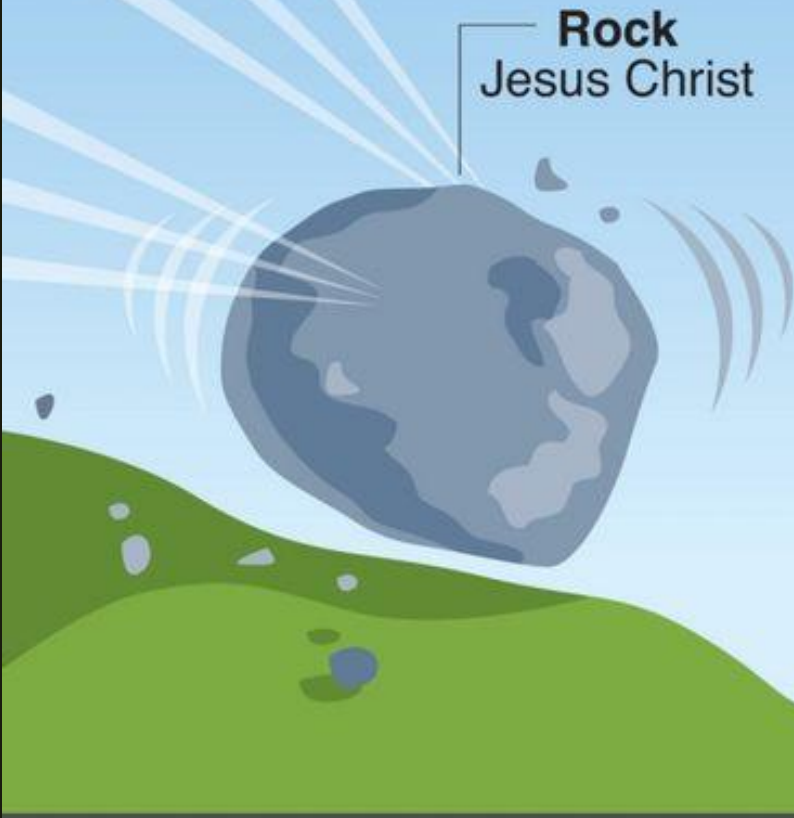
# End of the Babylonian Empire

## Daniel 5:30–31

That very night Belshazzar, king of the Babylonians, was slain,  
and Darius the Mede took over the kingdom, at the age of sixty-two.

# Nebuchadnezzar's Statue

*Daniel 2*



**Rock**  
Jesus Christ

**Gold** \_\_\_\_\_  
Babylonian  
Empire

**Silver** \_\_\_\_\_  
Medo-Persian  
Empire

**Bronze** \_\_\_\_\_  
Greek Empire

**Iron** \_\_\_\_\_  
Roman Empire

**Iron and Clay** \_\_\_\_\_  
Modern powers



THE KINGDOMS  
REVEALED IN THE  
KING'S DREAM

# Reflections from Daniel 5

1. How are you honouring the sacred vessel that is you?
2. What is your reputation?
3. How free are you to witness to God's work?
4. Can you read the writing on the wall?
5. Measured, weighed, found wanting.