

Courage for a world that challenges our faith

MEN'S MORNING STUDY

BRAVE *by* FAITH

A STUDY OF DANIEL 1-7

THURSDAYS, JUNE 4-AUG 6 @ 6:30-7:30A
THE LOOP CAMPUS (GARDEN RM)
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MEN'S MINISTRY

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“Ministry of the Obvious”

Don Munton (Don.Munton@HoustonsFirst.org)

“All it takes is for God to lift a finger, and everything changes” — Alistair Begg

Notes and Observations:

Character matters, when it matters.

- Background between Daniel 4 and Daniel 5:
- Enemy is at the door (Vs. 1-4) → Belshazzar Avoids the _____
- The Handwriting on the Wall (vs. 5-9) → Seeing the _____
- The Queen Recommends Daniel (vs. 10-12) → Chaos _____ needs Godly wisdom!
- Seeing and Speaking Truth (vs. 13-24) → Ministry of the _____.
- Daniel interprets the writing and is rewarded? (v 25–29) → Being faithful to state the _____ will get its just reward.
- Kingdoms Fall! (vs. 30-31) → “The Pride & Folly of Man is _____ & does not last”

Discussion:

1. Have you struggled with doing the obvious right thing when struggles have come?
 - a. postponed a decision?
 - b. did not talk to the boss?
 - c. step back when you should have stepped up?
2. What idols (emotional, relational, physical) can be greater than God in your life?
 - a. Success
 - b. Avoidance
 - c. Fear of Failure
 - d. Do things my way
3. Why are gifts not the most important thing when helping someone?
 - a. Should you refuse gifts? When & why?
4. Have you ever been in a high powered place or situation like Daniel with an opportunity to witness? How did you react?
5. As an older man have you felt forgotten? If you had to wait 30 years for God to profoundly use you again — how would you stay ready?
6. How does Gal 6:9 help to stay prepared?
7. What is one truth you heard this morning you can apply today?



Ministry of the Obvious

Brave by Faith



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Character Matters, When it Matters

(Between chapter 4 & 5)



Enemy is @ the Door

(v 1–4)

- What does Belshazzar do?
- The unthinkable
- He taunts God

“Belshazzar Avoids the Obvious”



Romans 1:21–23

21 For though they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God or show gratitude. Instead, their thinking became nonsense, and their senseless minds were darkened.

22 Claiming to be wise, they became fools

23 and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man, birds, four-footed animals, and reptiles.



Isaiah 42:8

I am Yahweh, that is My name; I will not give My glory to another or My praise to idols.



The Handwriting on the Wall

(5–9)

Seeing the Obvious



Luke 12:19–20

19 Then I'll say to myself, "You have many goods stored up for many years. Take it easy; eat, drink, and enjoy yourself."

20 "But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life is demanded of you. And the things you have prepared—whose will they be?'



The Queen Recommends Daniel

(10–12)

“Chaos Obviously Needs Godly Wisdom”



Daniel 5:11 (AMP)

There is a man in your kingdom in whom is the Spirit of the Holy God [or gods], and in the days of your father light and understanding and wisdom like the wisdom of the gods were found in him; and King Nebuchadnezzar, your father—the king, I say, your father—appointed him master of the magicians, enchanter *or* soothsayers, Chaldeans, and astrologers,



Seeing & Speaking Truth Daniel

(13–24)

“Ministry of the Obvious”



2 Timothy 4:2

Proclaim the message; persist in it whether convenient or not; rebuke, correct, and encourage with great patience and teaching.



Daniel 5:23 (AMP)

And you have lifted yourself up against the Lord of heaven, and the vessels of His house have been brought before you, and you and your lords, your wives, and your concubines have drunk wine from them; and you have praised the gods of silver and gold, of bronze, iron, wood, and stone, which do not see or hear or know; but the God in Whose hand your breath is and Whose are all your ways you have not honored *and* glorified [but have dishonored and disgraced].



Daniel Interprets the Writing & is Rewarded?

(25–29)

Being Faithful to State the Obvious Will get its Just Reward



Prov 16:18

Pride comes before destruction, and an arrogant spirit before a fall.



Kingdoms Fall

(30–31)

“The Pride & Folly of Man is Obvious & Does Not Last”



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