

DANIEL

LIVING

SURVIVING

FLOURISHING

IN EXILE



GOD IS NOT MOCKED

DANIEL 5:1-31



“Self-centered indulgence, pride and a lack of shame over sin are now emblems of the American lifestyle.”

BILLY GRAHAM





DANIEL 5:1-31

King Belshazzar made a great feast for a thousand of his lords and drank wine in front of the thousand. Belshazzar, when he tasted the wine, commanded that the vessels of gold and of silver that Nebuchadnezzar his father had taken out of the temple in Jerusalem be brought, that the king and his lords, his wives, and his concubines...



DANIEL 5:1-31 (CONT)

...might drink from them. Then they brought in the golden vessels that had been taken out of the temple, the house of God in Jerusalem, and the king and his lords, his wives, and his concubines drank from them. They drank wine and praised the gods of gold and silver, bronze, iron, wood, and stone.



DANIEL 5:1-31 (CONT)

Immediately the fingers of a human hand appeared and wrote on the plaster of the wall of the king's palace, opposite the lampstand. And the king saw the hand as it wrote. Then the king's color changed, and his thoughts alarmed him; his limbs gave way, and his knees knocked together. The king called loudly to bring in the enchanter,



DANIEL 5:1-31 (CONT)

...the Chaldeans, and the astrologers. The king declared to the wise men of Babylon, "Whoever reads this writing, and shows me its interpretation, shall be clothed with purple and have a chain of gold around his neck and shall be the third ruler in the kingdom." Then all the king's wise men came in, but they could not read the writing or make...



DANIEL 5:1-31 (CONT)

...known to the king the interpretation. Then King Belshazzar was greatly alarmed, and his color changed, and his lords were perplexed.





THE SIN OF PRIDE



DEUTERONOMY 8:11-14a

“Take care lest you forget the LORD your God by not keeping his commandments and his rules and his statutes, which I command you today, lest, when you have eaten and are full and have built good houses and live in them, and when your herds and flocks multiply and your silver and gold is multiplied....”



DEUTERONOMY 8:11-14a (CONT)

“...and all that you have is multiplied, then your heart be lifted up, and you forget the LORD your God....”





GALATIANS 6:7-8

Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life.



DANIEL 5:18-23

“O king, the Most High God gave Nebuchadnezzar your father kingship and greatness and glory and majesty. And because of the greatness that he gave him, all peoples, nations, and languages trembled and feared before him. Whom he would, he killed, and whom he would, he kept alive; whom he would,



DANIEL 5:18-23 (CONT)

“...he raised up, and whom he would, he humbled. But when his heart was lifted up and his spirit was hardened so that he dealt proudly, he was brought down from his kingly throne, and his glory was taken from him. He was driven from among the children of mankind, and his mind was made like that of a beast,



DANIEL 5:18-23 (CONT)

“...and his dwelling was with the wild donkeys. He was fed grass like an ox, and his body was wet with the dew of heaven, until he knew that the Most High God rules the kingdom of mankind and sets over it whom he will. And you his son, Belshazzar, have not humbled your heart, though you knew all this,



DANIEL 5:18-23 (CONT)

“...but you have lifted up yourself against the Lord of heaven. And the vessels of his house have been brought in 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,



DANIEL 5:18-23 (CONT)

“...but the God in whose hand is your breath, and whose are all your ways, you have not honored.”



“God sends no one away empty except those who are full of themselves.”

D. L. MOODY





GOD'S JUDGMENT



“There is a man....”

THE QUEEN MOTHER



1 CORINTHIANS 1:24

“...Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.”



JOHN 4:29

“Come, see a man who told me all that I ever did.
Can this be the Christ?”





“I have never met or read of a Christian leader of true quality who was not also marked in one way or another by this excellent spirit that characterized Daniel.”

SINCLAIR FERGUSON



DANIEL 5:25-28

“And this is the writing that was inscribed: MENE, MENE, TEKEL, and PARSIN. This is the interpretation of the matter: MENE, God has numbered the days of your kingdom and brought it to an end; TEKEL, you have been weighed in the balances and found wanting; PERES, your kingdom is divided and given to the Medes and Persians.”





DANIEL 5:30-31

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



“...while the enemy upon the walls laughed his siege-works to scorn, in the belief that they had provisions enough for more than twenty years. Upon hearing of this, Cyrus divided his army into twelve parts as if intending each part to be responsible for sentry duty during one month of each year; but the Babylonians, in their turn, when they heard of that, laughed much more scornfully still, at the thought of Phrygians and Lydians and Arabians and Cappadocians keeping guard against them, for they considered all these to be more friendly to them than to the Persians.”



“At last the ditches were completed. Then, when he heard that a certain festival had come round in Babylon, during which all Babylon was accustomed to drink and revel all night long, Cyrus took a large number of men, just as soon as it was dark, and opened up the heads of the trenches at the river. As soon as that was done, the water flowed down through the ditches in the night, and the bed of the river, where it traversed the city, became passable for men.”

XENOPHON

Cyropedia (The Education of Cyrus)

ca. 370 B.C.





ISAIAH 44:47-48

“...who says to the deep, ‘Be dry; I will dry up your rivers’; who says of Cyrus, ‘He is my shepherd, and he shall fulfill all my purpose....’”



ISAIAH 45:1-6

“Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have grasped, to subdue nations before him and to loose the belts of kings, to open doors before him that gates may not be closed: ‘I will go before you and level the exalted places, I will break in pieces the doors of bronze and cut through the bars of iron,



ISAIAH 45:1-6 (CONT)

“I will give you the treasures of darkness and the hoards in secret places, that you may know that it is I, the LORD, the God of Israel, who call you by your name. For the sake of my servant Jacob, and Israel my chosen, I call you by your name, I name you, though you do not know me. I am the LORD, and there is no other, besides me...



ISAIAH 45:1-6 (CONT)

“...there is no God; I equip you, though you do not know me, that people may know, from the rising of the sun and from the west, that there is none besides me; I am the LORD, and there is no other.””





THE DEPTH OF MERCY



“God warns us of his judgment so that we will seek his Son who already assumed it. The blood of Jesus beacons and beckons. It beacons a warning to all who will look, testifying that God judges sin. ‘Turn back,’ the blood warns, ‘turn back from the sin that leads to your hurt and this destruction.’ At the same time the blood beckons. It beckons sinner to be covered and cleansed by the crimson flow that God lovingly provides for all who truly repent. ‘Come,’ cries the blood, ‘come away from your guilt and enter the forgiving, comforting, strengthening presence of the Savior.”

BRYAN CHAPELL



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