

THE
HEART *OF THE*
MATTER

A New Beginning

Renew your Heart





Daniel 5 New King James Version

Belshazzar's Feast

5 Belshazzar the king made a great feast for a thousand of his lords, and drank wine in the presence of the thousand. 2 While he tasted the wine, Belshazzar gave the command to bring the gold and silver vessels which his father Nebuchadnezzar had **taken from the temple which had been in Jerusalem**, that the king and his lords, his wives, and his concubines might drink from them.

Daniel 5 New King James Version

Belshazzar's Feast

4 They drank wine, and praised the gods of gold and silver, bronze and iron, wood and stone.

5 In the same hour the fingers of a man's hand appeared and wrote opposite the lampstand on the plaster of the wall of the king's palace; and the king saw the part of the hand that wrote. 6 Then the king's countenance changed, and his thoughts troubled him, so that the joints of his hips were loosened and his knees knocked against each other.

Daniel 5 New King James Version

The king spoke, saying to the wise men of Babylon, “Whoever reads this writing, and tells me its interpretation, shall be clothed with purple and have a chain of gold around his neck; and he shall be the third ruler in the kingdom.” 8 Now all the king’s wise men came, but they could not read the writing, or make known to the king its interpretation. 9 Then King Belshazzar was greatly troubled, his countenance was changed, and his lords were astonished.

Daniel 5 New King James Version

13 Then Daniel was brought in before the king...

16 And I have heard of you, that you can give interpretations and explain enigmas. Now if you can read the writing and make known to me its interpretation, you shall be clothed with purple and have a chain of gold around your neck, and shall be the third ruler in the kingdom.”

Daniel 5 New King James Version

17 Then Daniel answered,..“Let your gifts be for yourself, and give your rewards to another; yet I will read the writing to the king, ...

18 O king, the Most High God gave Nebuchadnezzar your father a kingdom and majesty, glory and honor...

Daniel 5 New King James Version

20 But when his heart was lifted up, and his spirit was hardened in pride, he was deposed from his kingly throne, and they took his glory from him. 21 Then he was driven from the sons of men, his heart was made like the beasts, and his dwelling was with the wild donkeys. They fed him with grass like oxen, and his body was wet with the dew of heaven,

until he acknowledged that the Most High God is sovereign over all kingdoms on earth and sets over them anyone he wishes. (NIV)

Daniel 5 New King James Version

22 “But you his son, Belshazzar, **have not humbled your heart,** although you knew all this. 23 And you have lifted yourself up against the Lord of heaven...

26 This is the interpretation of each word. **MENE:** God has numbered your kingdom, and finished it; 27 **TEKEL:** You have been weighed in the balances, and found wanting; 28 **PERES:** **Your kingdom has been divided, and given to the Medes and Persians.”**

Isaiah 45:1 New King James Version

45

“Thus says the Lord to His anointed,
To Cyrus, whose right hand I have held—
To subdue nations before him
And loose the armor of kings,
To open before him the double doors,
So that the gates will not be shut:

Ezra 1 New King James Version

End of the Babylonian Captivity

1 Now in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, that the word of the Lord by the mouth of Jeremiah might be fulfilled, the Lord stirred up the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia, so that he made a proclamation throughout all his kingdom, and also put it in writing, saying,

Ezra 1 New King James Version

2 Thus says Cyrus king of Persia:

All the kingdoms of the earth the Lord God of heaven has given me.

And He has commanded me to build Him a house at Jerusalem

which is in Judah. 3 Who is among you of all His people? May his God

be with him, and let him go up to Jerusalem which is in Judah, and

**build the house of the Lord God of Israel (He is God), which is in
Jerusalem.**

Jeremiah 29:4-7 New King James Version

4 Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel, to all who were carried away captive, whom I have caused to be carried away from Jerusalem to Babylon:

Jeremiah 29:4-7 New King James Version

5 Build houses and dwell in them; plant gardens and eat their fruit. 6 Take wives and beget sons and daughters; and take wives for your sons and give your daughters to husbands, so that they may bear sons and daughters—that you may be increased there, and not diminished. 7 And seek the peace of the city where I have caused you to be carried away captive, and pray to the Lord for it; for in its peace you will have peace.

1 Peter 2:5 New King James Version

5 you also, as living stones, **are being built up a spiritual house**, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

Ephesians 2:19-22 New King James Version

19 Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, 20 having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone, 21 in whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, 22 in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.

1 Corinthians 14:24-25 New King James Version

24 But if all prophesy, and an unbeliever or an uninformed person comes in, he is convinced by all, he is convicted by all. 25 And thus the secrets of his heart are revealed; and so, falling down on his face, he will worship God and report that **God is truly among you.**

Galatians 2:20 New King James Version

20 I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.

2 Corinthians 5:17 New King James Version

17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

Philippians 3:12-14 New International Version

12 Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already arrived at my goal, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. 13 Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. **But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead,** 14 I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

“Most people overestimate what they can get done in a year and underestimate what they can do in a decade.”

**“If it's your job to eat a frog, it's best to do it first thing in the morning.
And If it's your job to eat two frogs, it's best to eat the biggest one
first.”**

—Mark Twain

Productivity consultant Brian Tracy named the method Eat The Frog

Isaiah 43:18-19 English Standard Version

18

**“Remember not the former things,
nor consider the things of old.**

19

**Behold, I am doing a new thing;
now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?
I will make a way in the wilderness
and rivers in the desert.**

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