

# Daniel Part 5 HANDOUT

3.22.26

Belshazzar—Nebuchadnezzar’s grandson (though called “father” in a royal sense in the text)—is the king we meet in Daniel 5.

**Daniel 5:1** <sup>1</sup>King Belshazzar gave a great banquet for a thousand of his nobles and drank wine with them.

- This is a **lavish, excessive, pride-filled celebration**.
- Historically, Babylon is under threat at this moment.

**KEY THOUGHT:** Pride Celebrates What God Is About to Judge

**Daniel 5:2–3** “... <sup>3</sup>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.”

This is the progression of pride:

1. **False security** → “Nothing can touch me”
2. **Spiritual indifference** → “God doesn’t matter”
3. **Open disrespect** → “I’ll do what I want”

**Daniel 5:4** <sup>4</sup>As they drank the wine, they praised the gods of gold and silver, of bronze, iron, wood and stone.

REALITY: **Sin always escalates.**

**Daniel 5:5-6** <sup>5</sup>Suddenly the fingers of a human hand appeared and wrote on the plaster of the wall, near the lampstand in the royal palace. The king watched the hand as it wrote.  
<sup>6</sup>His face turned pale and he was so frightened that his legs became weak and his knees were knocking.

**KEY THOUGHT:** God Can Interrupt Your Life In A Moment

We tend to live like we control the timeline of our lives.

But Scripture reminds us: ***Life can change in a moment.***

**DANIEL 5:7–9** (*The king calls in: Wise men / Enchanters / Astrologers*)

And once again... **They have no answers.**

***What the world depends on cannot stand under God’s authority.***

**KEY THOUGHT:** What You Trust Will Be Tested

***Will what you trust hold up when life shakes?***

**DANIEL 5:10–16** *(The queen remembers Daniel. The forgotten prophet is called back in.)*

**KEY THOUGHT:** Faithfulness in the Shadows Prepares You for Moments That Matter

***God often prepares you in private for what He will do in public.***

**DANIEL 5:17–23** ...<sup>22</sup>“But you, Belshazzar, his son, have not humbled yourself, though you knew all this. <sup>23</sup>Instead, you have set yourself up against the Lord of heaven...

**KEY THOUGHT:** You Are Responsible for the Truth You Already Know

**DANIEL 5:24–28** <sup>24</sup>Therefore he sent the hand that wrote the inscription.

<sup>25</sup>“This is the inscription that was written:

MENE, MENE, TEKEL, PARSIN

<sup>26</sup>“Here is what these words mean:

*Mene:* God has numbered the days of your reign and brought it to an end.

<sup>27</sup> *Tekel:* You have been weighed on the scales and found wanting.

<sup>28</sup> *Peres:* Your kingdom is divided and given to the Medes and Persians.”

**KEY THOUGHT:** God’s Evaluation Is Final...And It Is Always Right

***God’s evaluation is always accurate.***

**DANIEL 5:30–31** <sup>30</sup>That very night Belshazzar, king of the Babylonians, was slain, <sup>31</sup>and Darius the Mede took over the kingdom, at the age of sixty-two.

- God gave time.
- God gave warning.
- But time ran out.

**LIFE POINT:** Don’t wait for the writing on the wall to take God seriously.

You don’t get to choose if God evaluates you—only when you respond.

The greatest danger is not God’s judgment—it’s ignoring His warning.