

Daniel 5 **Fright Night**

It's been about 70 yrs from Ch 1 Daniel taken captive. Now he mid 80's. Ch 5 takes place 20 + yrs after Ch 4 Nebu declaration of God. Jer 27:6,7 proph Nebu rule Babylon up to time of grandson's rule after that become a servant to nations (539 BC) it's what we see Ch 5

Belshazzar Nebu grandson conquered by M-P chest/arms silver Ch 2. Is 47:9 city fall in one day 539 BC. Is 44-45 Cyrus My shepherd 150 yrs before conquered—Fright Night for Belshazzar—someone :1 the ball; 2-4 the gall; 5-6 the wall; 7-16 the call; 17-31 the fall

1 Belshazzar the king held a great feast for a thousand of his nobles, and he was drinking wine in the presence of the thousand. 2 When Belshazzar tasted the wine, he gave orders to bring the gold and silver vessels which Nebuchadnezzar his father had taken out of the temple which was in Jerusalem, in order that the king and his nobles, his wives, and his concubines might drink from them.

Over a decade in power—time gave false security, counterfeit courage. Dan set aside as chief of magicians/counselors/interpreters. Testimony of Nebu forgotten, deterioration of nation 'those who neglect to learn lessons for the past are doomed to repeat it'. Father-forefather, ancestor, progenitor is grandfather.

Idiom figure of speech for ch 5 'handwriting on wall' 'your days are numbered' 'knees knocking'

Critics said book Dan fraud 'no historical record of Babylonian king Belshazzar, record ends w/ Nabonidus 556-539 BC. In 1853 archeologist discovered clay cylinder called Nabonidus cylinder READ

Nabonidus chronicles 'His reign covers conquest by Cyrus thru the start of reign of Cyrus son Cambyses' —showing Belshazzar co-ruler w/ father Nabonidus who lived in Tema 14 or 17 yr reign while Belshazzar, staff and army in Babylon. Bible always ahead of archeology. Uncovered banquet halls 10,000 w/ king separated on elevated nitch/platform-Persians 15,000 daily guests.

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3 Then they brought the gold vessels that had been taken out of the temple, the house of God which was in Jerusalem; and the king and his nobles, his wives, and his concubines drank from them. 4 They drank the wine and praised the gods of gold and silver, of bronze, iron, wood, and stone.

As Nebonidus was being cut off, on run, captured in Tema 550 mi from Babylon, Belshazzar in foolish pride & reckless arrogance defies & defiles Holy Vessels’—drank/drank ‘wine a mocker, strong drink brawler those who intox not wise’—a brawl not ball ***Pr 31:4 It is not for kings, O Lemuel, It is not for kings to drink wine, Or for rulers to desire strong drink, 5 Lest they drink and forget what is decreed, And pervert the rights of all the afflicted.***

Mocks God grampa gave glory to & testified of. Ego? Insecure? Pagan gods greater? Drunken orgy—concubines for physical pleasure. Daniel not invited. When sinful world excludes you from parties rejoice. Not want your light in their darkness. ***1Pet 4: 3 For the time already past is sufficient for you to have carried out the desire of the Gentiles, having pursued a course of sensuality, lusts, drunkenness, carousals, drinking parties and abominable idolatries. 4 And in all this, they are surprised that you do not run with them into the same excess of dissipation, and they malign you; 5 but they shall give account to Him who is ready to judge the living and the dead.***

These were holy vessels used in service of God.. ***1Thes 4:4 that each of you know how to possess his own vessel in sanctification and honor***

Unaware the city is surrounded while Belshazzar confidently, arrogantly, ignorantly taunts God thinking the city too strong to fall. READ **1Thes 5:3**

5 Suddenly the fingers of a man's hand emerged and began writing opposite the lampstand on the plaster of the wall of the king's palace, and the king saw the back of the hand that did the writing. 6 Then the king's face grew pale, and his thoughts alarmed him; and his hip joints went slack, and his knees began knocking together.

Revelry & riot turn to revelation & reckoning---man's hand Pr 29:1 ‘He who hardens his heart after much reproof will suddenly be broken w/o remedy’. Always before judgment comes warning...Dan, Nebu---Belshazzar shows signs of a guilty conscience. Fright night is now ‘***a terrifying thing to fall into the hands of the living God***’ Heb 10:31 What is really on the inside comes out—curse God or cry for mercy **Tenerife Is 13:6-13** last days

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7 The king called aloud to bring in the conjurers, the Chaldeans and the diviners. The king spoke and said to the wise men of Babylon, "Any man who can read this inscription and explain its interpretation to me will be clothed with purple, and have a necklace of gold around his neck, and have authority as third ruler in the kingdom." 8 Then all the king's wise men came in, but they could not read the inscription or make known its interpretation to the king. 9 Then King Belshazzar was greatly alarmed, his face grew even paler, and his nobles were perplexed.

Followers of false gods are useless to understand the things of the true and living God....But we do **1Cor 2:14** *But a natural man does not accept the things of the Spirit of God; for they are foolishness to him, and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually appraised. 15 But he who is spiritual appraises all things, yet he himself is appraised by no man. 16 For WHO HAS KNOWN THE MIND OF THE LORD, THAT HE SHOULD INSTRUCT HIM? But we have the mind of Christ.*

10 The queen entered the banquet hall because of the words of the king and his nobles; the queen spoke and said, "O king, live forever! Do not let your thoughts alarm you or your face be pale. 11 "There is a man in your kingdom in whom is a spirit of the holy gods; and in the days of your father, illumination, insight, and wisdom like the wisdom of the gods were found in him. And King Nebuchadnezzar, your father, your father the king, appointed him chief of the magicians, conjurers, Chaldeans, and diviners. 12 "This was because an extraordinary spirit, knowledge and insight, interpretation of dreams, explanation of enigmas, and solving of difficult problems were found in this Daniel, whom the king named Belteshazzar. Let Daniel now be summoned, and he will declare the interpretation."

Queen mother Nebu widow or wife Nabonidus. Daniels reputation proceeded him. It's been said it takes 30 yrs to gain a reputation but only 5 minutes to ruin it. Dan in 80's captive as teen and in Babylon 70 yrs. In midst of drunken orgy Daniel is brought in—light in dark place. 'Little girl won't He shine thru?

13 Then Daniel was brought in before the king. The king spoke and said to Daniel, "Are you that Daniel who is one of the exiles from Judah, whom my father the king brought from Judah?"

One of the exiles—an insult show king is important one in room.

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14“Now I have heard about you that a spirit of the gods is in you, and that illumination, insight, and extraordinary wisdom have been found in you. 15“Just now the wise men and the conjurers were brought in before me that they might read this inscription and make its interpretation known to me, but they could not declare the interpretation of the message. 16“But I personally have heard about you, that you are able to give interpretations and solve difficult problems. Now if you are able to read the inscription and make its interpretation known to me, you will be clothed with purple and wear a necklace of gold around your neck, and you will have authority as the third ruler in the kingdom.”

Dan last resort...ignored during Belshazzar's entire reign....22 yrs since Nebu death...and Belshazzar never sought out Dan wisdom. Sad when spiritual people ignored... 'Never underestimate the power of a Godly life in the hands of God. But also 'never underestimate the damage done by a compromised life in the hands of the devil'

17 Then Daniel answered and said before the king, “Keep your gifts for yourself, or give your rewards to someone else; however, I will read the inscription to the king and make the interpretation known to him.

Dan words a reproof to a king who is used to getting his way. Keep your bribed I don't want it. Answer a fool according as his folly deserves. I will interpret not because you are buying me off but God has a message for you. Dan has different attitude toward Bel vs Nebu. Dan will not compromise message to appease man...he's not a people pleaser.

18“O king, the Most High God granted sovereignty, grandeur, glory, and majesty to Nebuchadnezzar your father. 19“And because of the grandeur which He bestowed on him, all the peoples, nations, and men of every language feared and trembled before him; whomever he wished he killed, and whomever he wished he spared alive; and whomever he wished he elevated, and whomever he wished he humbled. 20“But when his heart was lifted up and his spirit became so proud that he behaved arrogantly, he was deposed from his royal throne, and his glory was taken away from him.

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Sov of God puts down one exalts another Jn 19:11 Jesus before *Pilate*
10Pilate therefore said to Him, "You do not speak to me? Do You not know that I have authority to release You, and I have authority to crucify You?" 11Jesus answered, "You would have no authority over Me, unless it had been given you from above; for this reason he who delivered Me up to you has the greater sin."

21"He was also driven away from mankind, and his heart was made like that of beasts, and his dwelling place was with the wild donkeys. He was given grass to eat like cattle, and his body was drenched with the dew of heaven, until he recognized that the Most High God is ruler over the realm of mankind, and that He sets over it whomever He wishes. 22"Yet you, his son, Belshazzar, have not humbled your heart, even though you knew all this, 23but you have exalted yourself against the Lord of heaven; and they have brought the vessels of His house before you, and you and your nobles, your wives and your concubines have been drinking wine from them; and you have praised the gods of silver and gold, of bronze, iron, wood and stone, which do not see, hear or understand. But the God in whose hand are your life-breath and your ways, you have not glorified. 24"Then the hand was sent from Him, and this inscription was written out.

Contrast—times of repentance are past...my spirit will not always strive w/ man for he is flesh Gen 6:3 FLOOD We are all accountable to God...'although they knew God they did not honor His as God'

No pardon...seared in conscience as w/ hot iron...hard heart...'Dan able to read it because his father wrote it'

25 "Now this is the inscription that was written out: 'MENE, MENE, TEKEL, UPHARSIN.' 26" This is the interpretation of the message: 'MENE' —God has numbered your kingdom and put an end to it. 27" 'TEKEL'—you have been weighed on the scales and found deficient. 28" 'PERES'—your kingdom has been divided and given over to the Medes and Persians." 29 Then Belshazzar gave orders, and they clothed Daniel with purple and put a necklace of gold around his neck, and issued a proclamation concerning him that he now had authority as the third ruler in the kingdom. 30 That same night Belshazzar the Chaldean king was slain. 31So Darius the Mede received the kingdom at about the age of sixty-two.

Sinners imagine judgment far away but not soon enough for concern'...Devil 'no heaven, no hell, no hurry---weighed in balance Egypt book of dead pic after death deeds weighed sins & worthy deeds

Bel you have been weighed not will be....as Dan spoke Euphrates diverted M-P army in city