

THE BOOK OF DANIEL
“The Bigger They Are, The Harder They Fall”

2/14/10

Daniel 5:1-31

INTRO:

“Many years later King Belshazzar gave a great feast for 1,000 of his nobles, and he drank wine with them.” (v. 1)

“So they brought these gold cups taken from the Temple, the house of God in Jerusalem, and the king and his nobles, his wives, and his concubines drank from them.” (v. 3 NLT)

1. THE **SACRILEGE** OF BELSHAZZAR: (vs. 1-4)

“While they drank from them they praised their idols made of gold, silver, bronze, iron, wood, and stone.” (v. 4)

2. THE **SOLUTION** FOR MAN: (vs. 5-12)

3. THE **SOVEREIGNTY** OF GOD: (vs. 13-24)

“You are his successor, O Belshazzar, and you knew all of this, yet you have not humbled yourself.” (v. 22 NLT)

A. God ***Demands*** a Humble Heart. (v. 22)

B. God Wants a ***Deliberate*** Commitment. (v. 23)

“You and your nobles and your wives and concubines have been drinking wine from them while praising gods of silver, gold, bronze, iron, wood, and stone...” (v. 23b NLT)

C. God ***Desires*** a Singular Worship. (v. 23)

“But you have not honored the God who gives you the breath of life and controls your destiny!” (v. 23c NLT)

4. THE *SAYING* ON THE WALL: (vs. 25-28)

“This is the message that was written, ‘Mene, Mene, Tekel, and Parsin.’” (v. 25 NLT)

A. Our *Possibilities* are Limited. (v. 26)

“Mene means ‘numbered’---God has numbered the days of your reign and has brought it to an end.” (v. 26 NLT)

B. Our *Passion* Must be Complete. (v. 27)

“Tekel means ‘weighed’---you have been weighed on the balances and have not measured up.” (v. 27 NLT)

“But I have this complaint against you. You don’t love me or each other as you did at first! I know all the things you do, that you are neither hot or cold. I wish that you were one or the other! But since you are like lukewarm water, neither hot or cold, I will spit you out of my mouth!” (Revelation 1:4, 15-16 NLT)

C. Our *Privilege* Can Be Lifted. (v. 28)

“Parsin means ‘divided’---your kingdom has been divided and given to the Medes and Persians.” (v. 28 NLT)

5. THE *SELECTION* OF DANIEL: (vs. 29-31)

“Then at Belshazzar’s command, Daniel was dressed in purple robes, a gold chain was hung around his neck, and he was proclaimed the third highest ruler in the kingdom.” (v. 29 NLT)

“That very night Belshazzar, the Babylonian king, was killed.” (v. 30 NLT)