

**Daniel;
Hand
Writing On
The Wall**

2-8-15

Daniel 5:5–6 (ESV)

⁵ 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. ⁶ Then the king's color changed, and his thoughts alarmed him; his limbs gave way, and his knees knocked together.

What happened to bring about this scenario?

Nebuchadnezzar conquered Israel, destroyed Jerusalem and the temple of God. Before he destroyed the temple of God, he took all the valuable items used in worship back to Babylon. **Here Belshazzar throws a party and in absolute insult and defiance to the Most High God**, he brings these vessels that were used in the temple of God to be used in his pagan party.

Daniel 5:1–4 (ESV)

King Belshazzar made a great feast for a thousand of his lords and drank wine in front of the thousand.

² 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 might drink from them. ³ 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. ⁴ They drank wine and praised the gods of gold and silver, bronze, iron, wood, and stone.



God moves to deal with sin, evil, and other craziness in the world in HIS own time and manner. However, **there is something about pure defiance and arrogance** directed to God that stirs HIM to more immediate action and swift judgment as we see here with Belshazzar.

Daniel 5:5–6 (ESV)

⁵ 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. ⁶ Then the king's color changed, and his thoughts alarmed him; his limbs gave way, and his knees knocked together.

Things are definitely out of hand! Now is the time to call on Daniel. Believers ready to step up.

Daniel 5:13–14 (ESV)

¹³ Then Daniel was brought in before the king. The king answered and said to Daniel, “You are that Daniel, one of the exiles of Judah, whom the king my father brought from Judah. ¹⁴ **I have heard of you**

Look at this comment when the King addresses Daniel, **“I have heard of you.”** He had heard of Daniel because Daniel had a reputation in the Empire. This is a truth for all believers. As you live out your faith in your **sphere of influence**, which will go against all that the world has to offer, people you don’t even know will hear about you and will be aware of you. Once when I was making a significant job change in the **CIA** from finance to the technical side in contracts. I had an exit interview with Charlie Kick, Director of Finance. I certainly was aware of him, but did not have any contact with him. Out of the blue, he said, “I hear you are real religious.” Then he asked me how I reconciled being a Christian and working for the CIA. Taken completely off guard, the only thing that came to mind was to tell him that Moses sent Joshua to spy out the land of Canaan. The point is: you never know the impact you may be having.

Called into this situation, Daniel addresses the king and does not hesitate to put things into context concerning the King’s open defiance of God.

Daniel 5:18–21 (ESV)

¹⁸ O king, the Most High God gave Nebuchadnezzar your father kingship and greatness and glory and majesty.

²⁰ 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 -- *as stated in Chapter 4* -- **until he knew** that the Most High God rules the kingdom of mankind and sets over it whom he will.

This next statement is very enlightening.

Daniel 5:22 (ESV)

²² And you his son, Belshazzar, have not humbled your heart, **though you knew all this.**

The King knew of Nebuchadnezzar's experience with God and in my opinion his ultimate conversion. This is a tremendous warning to us today. If we do not work to actively to pass our faith to our children, we will lose the next generation. This has happened throughout history.

Daniel 5:23 (ESV)

²³ (You knew this) but you have lifted up yourself against the Lord of heaven. And you have praised the gods of silver and gold, of bronze, iron, wood, and stone, which do not see or hear or know, but the God in whose hand is your breath, and whose are all your ways, you have not honored.

Another lesson about not passing on the reality of your faith, the next generation will not only reject it but also openly defy it. However God will ultimately reveal Himself. Here is the declaration of judgment from God, because of the King's open defiance.

Daniel 5:24–28 (ESV)

²⁴ “Then from his presence the hand was sent, and this writing was inscribed. ²⁵ And this is the writing that was inscribed: MENE, MENE, TEKEL, and PARSIN. ²⁶ This is the interpretation of the matter: MENE, God has numbered the days of your kingdom and brought it to an end; ²⁷ TEKEL, you have been weighed in the balances and found wanting; ²⁸ PERES, your kingdom is divided and given to the Medes and Persians.”

The saying: Writing on the Wall – Done Deal!

This is the interpretation God gave Daniel:

MENE - Numbered – KNOW your days are up!

I say it again, “Your days are up!”

TEKEL - Weighed – The JUDGEMENT is just; You blew it big time!

PARSIN - Divided – Kingdom will be SEPARATED from you and given to the Persians.

Daniel 5:30–31 (ESV)

³⁰ That very night Belshazzar the Chaldean king was killed. ³¹ And Darius the Mede received the kingdom, being about sixty-two years old.

We see the earthly snap shot of God dealing with the wicked of the world. **Therefore, we need to take heed to the words of Jesus about the ultimate judgment.**

Matthew 25:31–32 (ESV)

³¹ “When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne.

³² Before him will be gathered all the nations, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats.

Matthew 25:46 (ESV)

⁴⁶ And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”

The righteous go into eternal life.

2 Corinthians 5:21 (ESV)

For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Therefore, we should be motivated.

2 Corinthians 5:11 (ESV)

Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we persuade others.

Be Ready: Pastor Milliken, Leon Price, RT Kendall said a great move of God will come before Jesus returns.