

Book of Daniel

Class for October 8, 2023

Daniel – Chapter 5

Logos Class. Mod 5 Room 1

Class Schedule for the next few weeks

- ✓ *Sep 24, 2023 – **Wade Williams to teach***
- ✓ *Oct 1, 2023. - **Wade Williams to teach***
- ✓ *Oct 8, 2023 - Daniel Chapter 5*
- *Oct 15, 2023 - Daniel Chapter 6*
- *Oct 22, 2023 - Daniel Chapter 7*
- *Oct 29, 2023 - Daniel Chapter 8*

Thanks to Wade for teaching for me the 2 Sundays we were out

Comments before we start...

- Thank you to all who prayed for Dr. Tommy and Donna Chupp in their time of great need
- Service was a powerful testimony and celebration of his life in Service to His God.
- Thank you to Gloria, Randy, and Deb for making the arrangements, and for all those who brought food and participated to make the day work well. Keep the family and Donna in your prayers. She is rescheduling her hip surgery, and we will let you know the details.
- Several have asked about the prayer to the family that I used to conclude my remarks:

Prayer/ Benediction

*May God go **before you** to guide you, **Behind you** to protect you,
Beside you to encourage you, **Above you** to bless you
Beneath you to uphold you, And **within you** to give you peace.*

Amen

As a reminder of where we are in Daniel...

- *We have covered a lot of ground so far in Daniel and seen dreams identified and revealed.*
- *We've seen young Hebrew captives stand up for their beliefs and their purity in a pagan Kingdom, and live to be promoted and honored*
- *We've seen God deliver these men in times of desperate need and the prayers of the afflicted to God to reveal wisdom, action to take, and complete dependency on Him to protect them and ring glory to Himself.*
- *We've seen that God uses the pagans and non-believers to accomplish His will, even if they don't know it. We've also seen God punish His children for unbelief and disobedience.*
- *We saw God humble the King and finally acknowledge the God of the Jews as the King of Kings who humbles the proud, and elevates and demotes Kings*
- *Today we will look at the first of the Prophecies of Empires be fulfilled.*

Some context before we get to Ch 5

- *Another 25 years pass between Chapters 4 and 5*
- *About 60-65 years have passed since Daniel and the others were taken into captivity. Daniel is most likely about 70-75 years old.*
- *King Nebuchadnezzar has died and finished his years in Glory and wealth since God restored him to the throne.*
- *Messy situation after Nebuchadnezzar died: succeeded by **Merodach** (son) who was killed by his nephew **Neriglasar** who was succeeded by **Laborasoarchod** his son, who was an infant. He was beaten to death and **Nabonidus** (one of the conspirators) became King (married to a daughter of King Nebuchadnezzar). He served 17 years and was captured fighting the Medes/Persians. **Belshazzar** (son?) was acting King while the war raged and he was holed up in Babylon, a walled and secure city.*
- *The secular history is murky about all the relationships, but what I've given you is the most likely scenario.*

Now to Chapter 5

Daniel Ch 5 –Other things are taking place



- The Medes/Persians are at the door. The Arms and Chest of Silver are about to take their place
- Belshazzar felt secure in Babylon since it was a great walled city with plenty of food and water.
- Nabonidus has been captured already but it is likely Belshazzar does not know this...yet
- Euphrates River runs through Babylon and supplies endless water to a dry region.

Daniel Ch 5:1-2 It is time for a party...

5 King Belshazzar gave a great banquet for a thousand of his nobles and drank wine with them.

*2 **While** Belshazzar was drinking his wine, he gave orders to bring in the **gold and silver goblets** that Nebuchadnezzar his **father** had taken from the temple in **Jerusalem**, so that the king and his nobles, his wives, and his concubines **might drink from them.***

Daniel Ch 5:3-4 Praising the pagan gods

³ 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.

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

Daniel Ch 5:5-6

Suddenly...



⁵ 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.

⁶ His face turned pale, and he was so frightened that his legs became weak and his knees were knocking.

Daniel Ch 5:7-8 Fear and Anxiety increase

⁷ The king summoned the enchanter, astrologers, and diviners. Then he said to these wise men of Babylon, “Whoever reads this writing and tells me what it means will be clothed in purple and have a gold chain placed around his neck, and he will be made the third highest ruler in the kingdom.”

⁸ Then all the king’s wise men came in, but they could not read the writing or tell the king what it meant. ⁹ So King Belshazzar became even more terrified, and his face grew more pale. His nobles were baffled.

Daniel Ch 5:10-12 ... *A Voice from the Past*

¹⁰ The **queen**, hearing the voices of the king and his nobles, **came into the banquet hall. “May the king live forever!”** she said. **“Don’t be alarmed! Don’t look so pale!”**

¹¹ There is a man in your kingdom who has the spirit of the holy gods in him. In the time of **your father**, he was found to have insight, and intelligence, and wisdom like that of the gods. **Your father**, King Nebuchadnezzar, appointed him chief of the magicians, enchanters, astrologers, and diviners.

¹² He did this because **Daniel**, whom the king called **Belteshazzar**, was found to have a keen mind, and knowledge, and understanding, **and also the ability to interpret dreams, explain riddles, and solve difficult problems.**

Call for Daniel, and he will tell you what the writing means.”

Daniel Ch 5:13-16

Daniel is brought to the King

***13** So Daniel was brought before the king, and the king said to him, "Are you Daniel, one of the exiles my father the king brought from Judah?"*

14 I have heard that the spirit of the gods is in you and that you have insight, intelligence and outstanding wisdom.

15 The wise men and enchanter were brought before me to read this writing and tell me what it means, but they could not explain it.

*16 Now I have heard that you are able to **give interpretations and to solve difficult problems. If you can read this writing and tell me what it means, you will be clothed in purple and have a gold chain placed around your neck, and you will be made the third highest ruler in the kingdom.***

Daniel Ch 5:17-22 Daniel Responds

*17 Then Daniel answered the king, **“You may keep your gifts for yourself and give your rewards to someone else. Nevertheless, I will read the writing for the king and tell him what it means.***

*18 “Your Majesty, the **Most High** God gave your father Nebuchadnezzar sovereignty and greatness and glory and splendor.*

19 Because of the high position he gave him, all the nations and peoples of every language dreaded and feared him. Those the king wanted to put to death, he put to death; those he wanted to spare, he spared; those he wanted to promote, he promoted; and those he wanted to humble, he humbled.

*20 **But when his heart became arrogant and hardened with pride, he was deposed from his royal throne and stripped of his glory.***

*21 He was driven away from people and given the mind of an animal; he lived with the wild donkeys and ate grass like the ox; and his body was drenched 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.*

Daniel Ch 5:22-24

But you...

²² ***“But you, Belshazzar, his son, have not humbled yourself, though you knew all this.***

²³ *Instead, you have set yourself up against the Lord of heaven. You had the goblets from his temple brought to you, and you and your nobles, your wives and your concubines **drank wine from them.***

*You praised the gods of silver and gold, of bronze, iron, wood and stone, which cannot see or hear or understand. **But you did not honor the God who holds in his hand your life and all your ways.***

²⁴ ***Therefore he sent the hand that wrote the inscription.***

Daniel Ch 5: 25-28. *What did God write?*

25 “This is the inscription that was written:

mene, mene, tekel, parsin

26 “Here is what these words mean:

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

***27 Tekel:** You have been weighed on the scales and found wanting.*

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

Daniel Ch 5:29-30 Now what?

29 Then at Belshazzar's command, Daniel was clothed in purple, a gold chain was placed around his neck, and he was proclaimed the third-highest ruler in the kingdom.

30 That very night Belshazzar, king of the Babylonians, was slain,

31 and Darius the Mede took over the kingdom, at the age of sixty-two.

What does it mean? And What about Daniel?

- *The First Empire of the Statue was Babylon, and it fell (golden head)*
- *The Second Empire of the Statue is the Medes/Persians (silver shoulders and chest)*
- *The prophecy of God through Daniel is coming true*
- *Does Daniel survive the takeover?*
- *The first two verses of Ch 6 give us the answer:*

6 It pleased Darius to appoint 120 satraps(princes) to rule throughout the kingdom, ² with three administrators over them, **one of whom was Daniel.**

The satraps were made accountable to them so that the king might not suffer loss.

Next Week

- *Read Daniel **Chapter 6**, the last of the “history” chapters in Daniel. It is the chapter of **Daniel in the Lion's Den***
- ***Chapter 7** begins the sweeping prophetic visions of the Prophet*
- *Pray for our country and its leaders*
- *Pray for our state, counties, and leaders*
- *Pray for our church, the Pastors and leaders, and the congregation that we will be faithful to the mission of the church*
- *My plan for next week is also to do an ICYMI session if I can fit it in...*