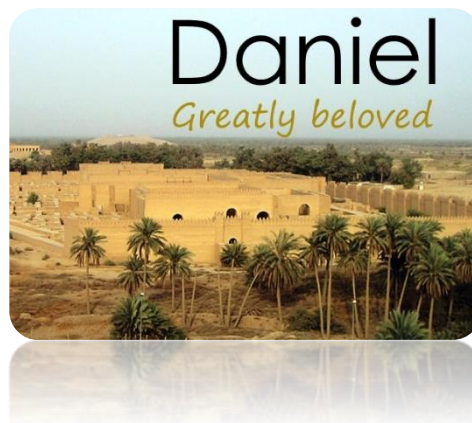


DANIEL 5 vs 1

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The destruction of the kingdom of Babylon had been long and often foretold when it was at a distance, in this chapter we have it accomplished. Belshazzar now reigned; some say seventeen years; others say, only three. We have here the story of his exit; about two years before, Cyrus of Persia, came against Babylon with a great army; Belshazzar met him, fought him, and was routed by him in a pitched battle. He and his scattered forces retreated into the city, where Cyrus besieged them. They were very secure, because the river Euphrates was their barricade; and they had twenty years provision stored in the city; but in the second year of the siege he finally took it, as is here related – Matthew Henry.



¹ Belshazzar the king made a great feast to a thousand of his lords. And drank wine before the thousand / a *rab* feast; WOW! Okay! And things don't change much, but it certainly sounds like the typical lavish excess and waste found in government. Doesn't it?

² Belshazzar, while he tasted the wine / probably guzzling and burping... and impressing his guests, of course! Now... friends don't let friends drive drunk! And you know that government generated public prattle... sounds a little sanctimonious. Doesn't it? And if you think about it... it sounds like politicians know their constituents... who hate them... and would let them drive drunk. Probably let them all drive drunk! But back to Belshazzar... I'm sure he had his public handlers... and charioteer ready!

And we read...

while he tasted the wine, he commanded to bring the golden and silver vessels which his father Nebuchadnezzar / now, in Hebrew and Chaldea, they have NO word for: grand-father... but we know according to archaeology, Belshazzar's mother was Nebuchadnezzar's daughter.

he commanded to bring the golden and silver vessels which his grand-father had taken from the temple which was in Jerusalem / and why did he do that? It sounds like some sort of prideful monkey business is going on. You know, brilliant morons in power. Why did he do that?

that the king, and his princes, his wives, and his concubines / his girl-friends, **might drink therein** / Belshazzar sounds like a real party animal! A real stupid party animal... and probably a little drunk party animal. Doesn't he?

³ Then they brought the golden vessels that were taken from the temple of the house of God which was at Jerusalem;

and the king, and his princes, his wives, and his concubines / his girl-friends,

drank from them. PAR-TEEE! ... yeehaw!! BRRR-P!

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4 They drank wine, and praised the gods of gold, and of silver, of brass, of iron, of wood, and of stone / so they are people who only praise... and prize... what they see; and they probably weren't seeing that clearly. Oh, they had sight! They obviously had NO... insight!

5 In the same hour came forth fingers of a man's hand, and wrote over against the candlestand / it sounds like... by the brightest light in the banquet hall, so everyone could see.

and these fingers... wrote over against the candlestick

upon the plaster of the wall of the king's palace; and the king saw the part of the hand that wrote. / I mean this hand was graffitiiing the king's wall! Now, it sounds like the party came screeching to a halt! Because we now read...

6 Then the king's countenance was changed / I bet his bright and cheery face sagged a little,

and his thoughts troubled him / they terrified him. I bet he said, Oh crap!

And with the power of suggestion unleashed, we read...

so that the joints of his loins were loosed, and his knees smote one against another / don't you love the King James? But let me translate. Now, he sort of sobered up; but he crapped his pants! And probably peed therein, too! And I love the King James; and his knees started knocking.

And apparently, the party was over, because we read...

7 The king cried aloud to bring in the astrologers, the Chaldeans,

and the soothsayers / apparently, they hadn't been invited to the party!

And the king spoke, and said to the wise / actually, he probably slurred... to the **wise** teachers of Babylon.

Whoereshurethewrtinshintershuntherof... let me translate:

Whoever will read this writing, and show me its interpretation,

Shlklogarlicyehhachnarouhenck... His what? Oh...

will be clothed with scarlet, and have a chain of gold about his neck,

Ashlbeturdrukkee...

and will be the third ruler in the kingdom / PP better than BS-bovine scatology... political promises from the drunk guy... sitting in his crapped pants!

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And we read...

⁸ Then came in all the king's wise guys:

but they could not read the writing, nor make known to the king its interpretation.

⁹ Then was king Belshazzar / sitting there in his loosed loins, greatly troubled,

And though his pants weren't changed...

his countenance was changed in him / his expression changed... like sitting there clueless,

and his lords were astonished / they were speechless, but what a sight to behold!

¹⁰ Now the queen / the queen mother... Nebuchadnezzar's daughter,

by reason of the words of the king and his lords came into the banquet house / in other words,
when all else fails... call Mama!

and the queen mother... spoke and said / sniff... sniff-sniff!! Whoa!!! King!! I mean...

O king / sniff-sniff!! live forever:

let not your thoughts trouble you / sniff-sniff!! nor let your countenance be changed / yet,
being a good mother, I'm sure she said, But do something about the pants!!

And we read...

¹¹ There is a man in your kingdom in whom is the spirit of the holy gods;

and in the days of your grand-father light and understanding and wisdom,

like the wisdom of the gods, was found in him;

whom the king Nebuchadnezzar... uh! your GRAND-father... / and the queen mother seems
to keep repeating herself. Is her son still a little tipsy and not focusing? Hello!! I repeat,

the king, your grand-father made this man... Master of the magicians, astrologers,
Chaldeans, and soothsayers;

¹² forasmuch as an excellent spirit, and knowledge, and understanding; interpreting of
dreams, and showing of hard sentences, and dissolving of doubts,

were found in this Daniel, whom the king named Belteshazzar:

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now let Daniel be called, and he will show the interpretation.

13 Then was Daniel brought before the king.

And the king spoke and said to Daniel / by now... I'm sure Belshazzar was sobering up;

Are you that Daniel, who is of the children of the captivity of **Judah,**

whom the king my grand-father brought out of **Jewry?**

And with a drunken smile on his rosy face, I bet he also said...

14 Yelp! I've even heard of you, that the spirit of the gods is in you,

and that light and understanding and excellent wisdom is found in you.

15 And now the wise, the astrologers, have been brought in before me,

that they should read this writing, and make known to me its interpretation:

but they could **not show the interpretation of the thing:**

16 And I have heard of you, that you can interpret, and dissolve doubts:

now if you can read the writing,

and make known to me its interpretation,

you will be clothed in **scarlet / ooh!! you know... like the color of the cardinals. No, not the bird-brains... the roman clerics. Well... come to think of it, yeah! Like those that flutter around that confession. You can dress up like them, Daniel! Hiccup! Apparently the drunk thought he could flatter Daniel who was not dressed in such ridiculous fashion;**

and will have a chain of gold around your neck / WOW!

and will be the third ruler in the kingdom.



In the 1800s, archaeologists found that Belshazzar, the son... was made co-regent with his father, Nabonidus. And Belshazzar sitting there with his loosed loins; offers the one who can interpret... to be the third ruler in the kingdom. Yieek-up!