

DANIEL 5:1-31

A Disgusting _____

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

2 While Belshazzar was drinking the wine, he gave orders to bring in the gold and silver cups that his predecessor, Nebuchadnezzar, had taken from the Temple in Jerusalem. He wanted to drink from them with his nobles, his wives, and his concubines.

3 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.

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

An _____ King

5 Suddenly, they saw the fingers of a human hand writing on the plaster wall of the king's palace, near the lampstand. The king himself saw the hand as it wrote, 6 and his face turned pale with fright. His knees knocked together in fear and his legs gave way beneath him.

An _____ Queen

10 But when the queen mother heard what was happening, she hurried to the banquet hall. She said to Belshazzar, "Long live the king! Don't be so pale and frightened.

An _____ Reputation

13 So Daniel was brought in before the king. The king asked him, "Are you Daniel, one of the exiles brought from Judah by my predecessor, King Nebuchadnezzar?"

14 I have heard that you have the spirit of the gods within you and that you are filled with insight, understanding, and wisdom.

15 My wise men and enchanters have tried to read the words on the wall and tell me their meaning, but they cannot do it.

16 I am told that you can give interpretations and solve difficult problems. If you can read these words and tell me their meaning, you will be clothed in purple robes of royal honor, and you will have a gold chain placed around your neck. You will become the third highest ruler in the kingdom."

An _____ King Called Out

17 Daniel answered the king, “Keep your gifts or give them to someone else, but I will tell you what the writing means.

18 Your Majesty, the Most High God gave sovereignty, majesty, glory, and honor to your predecessor, Nebuchadnezzar.

22 “You are his successor, O Belshazzar, and you knew all this, yet you have not humbled yourself.

23 For you have proudly defied the Lord of heaven and have had these cups from his Temple brought before you. 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—gods that neither see nor hear nor know anything at all. But you have not honored the God who gives you the breath of life and controls your destiny!

24 So God has sent this hand to write this message.

God _____ His Judgment

25 “This is the message that was written: Mene, Mene, Tekel, and Parsin.

26 This is what these words mean:

Mene means ‘numbered’—God has numbered the days of your reign and has brought it to an end.

27 Tekel means ‘weighed’—you have been weighed on the balances and have not measured up.

28 Parsin means ‘divided’—your kingdom has been divided and given to the Medes and Persians.”

29 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.

30 That very night Belshazzar, the Babylonian king, was killed.

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

The _____ We Must Have

Mene - Your Days Are Being _____ To An End

Psalm 39:4 “Lord, remind me how brief my time on earth will be. Remind me that my days are numbered— how fleeting my life is.

5 You have made my life no longer than the width of my hand. My entire lifetime is just a moment to you; at best, each of us is but a breath.”

Psalm 90:12 Teach us to realize the brevity of life, so that we may grow in wisdom.

Ecclesiastes 7:2 Better to spend your time at funerals than at parties. After all, everyone dies— so the living should take this to heart.

3 Sorrow is better than laughter, for sadness has a refining influence on us.

4 A wise person thinks a lot about death, while a fool thinks only about having a good time.

Understand The _____ Of Life

Jeremiah 32:38 They will be my people, and I will be their God.

39 And I will give them one heart and one purpose: to worship me forever, for their own good and for the good of all their descendants.

Tekel - Your Life Is Out Of _____

Proverbs 16:11 The Lord demands accurate scales and balances; he sets the standards for fairness.

Ecclesiastes 4:5 “Fools fold their idle hands, leading them to ruin.”

6 And yet, “Better to have one handful with quietness than two handfuls with hard work and chasing the wind.”

There Is A _____ For Life

Matthew 6:33 Seek the Kingdom of God above all else, and live righteously, and he will give you everything you need.

Psalm 46:10 “Be still, and know that I am God!...

Parsin - Your Life Is _____ Divided

James 1:5 If you need wisdom, ask our generous God, and he will give it to you. He will not rebuke you for asking.

6 But when you ask him, be sure that your faith is in God alone. Do not waver, for a person with divided loyalty is as unsettled as a wave of the sea that is blown and tossed by the wind.

7 Such people should not expect to receive anything from the Lord.

8 Their loyalty is divided between God and the world, and they are unstable in everything they do.

James 4:8 Come close to God, and God will come close to you. Wash your hands, you sinners; purify your hearts, for your loyalty is divided between God and the world.

To Live An Undivided Life

Romans 14:7 For we don't live for ourselves or die for ourselves.

8 If we live, it's to honor the Lord. And if we die, it's to honor the Lord. So whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord.

9 Christ died and rose again for this very purpose—to be Lord both of the living and of the dead.