**The Hand Writing Is On The Wall**

(Daniel 5:1-5; 25-28 KJV)

*1**Belshazzar the king made a great feast to a thousand of his lords, and drank wine before the thousand. 2 Belshazzar, whiles he tasted the wine, commanded to bring the golden and silver vessels which his father Nebuchadnezzar had taken out of the temple which was in Jerusalem; that the king, and his princes, his wives, and his concubines, might drink therein. 3 Then they brought the golden vessels that were taken out of the temple of the house of God which was at Jerusalem; and the king, and his princes, his wives, and his concubines, drank in them.4 They drank wine, and praised the gods of gold, and of silver, of brass, of iron, of wood, and of stone. 5 In the same hour came forth fingers of a man's hand, and wrote over against the candlestick upon the plaister of the wall of the king's palace: and the king saw the part of the hand that wrote. 25And this is the writing that was written, MENE, MENE, TEKEL, UPHARSIN. 26 This is the interpretation of the thing: MENE; God hath numbered thy kingdom, and finished it. 27  TEKEL; Thou art weighed in the balances, and art found wanting. 28PERES; Thy kingdom is divided, and given to the Medes and Persians.*

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ow let's be totally honest every now and then each of us like to throw a party. We like to reserve a location for the party, compose our guest list, send out the invitation, wait for a response, request certain styles of gifts to be donated for the celebration, hire the DJ, select the finest drinks, design special shirts, appoint the hype man or woman, prepare the menu, hire the best of security or bouncers, as we party like Prince says, like it's 1999. But there’s nothing wrong with partying—but the way you party and conduct yourself! Yes! That's right—some people get carried away with their conduct and careless lifestyle. I want to inform everybody God is watching presently and persistently on how we live our lives and treat other people.

There should not just be knowledge that God is real—but there should be a knowing that God is real. And this is exactly what Belshazzar had to learn the hard way—because God will crash his party. We use the expression "The Party's Over" to say that whatever a person has enjoyed doing has been completed—and reality has sat in, the person must now face whatever consequences are facing him.

In the text the geographical setting is Babylon and what a beautiful city to behold. It had been built into a fortress that was rated five stars. It was surrounded by a huge wall that some say was **1650** feet wide and a mile long. It had **4,500** pillars shaped like elephants which made up the walls **40** feet high! In fact, six chariots could run abreast on top of the wall. It was encircled by a large moat and the beautiful Euphrates River ran through the midst of the city. The Babylonians trusted the security of the city, and ignored the sovereignty of the creator. But as is the case anytime we trust man's wisdom and ability, we are trusting in a false security. The Babylonian thought they had it going on and living life to the fullest. But God is getting ready to crash the party!

Historically in the text it's been 70 years since Daniel and the other Jewish teenagers arrived from Jerusalem and were placed into Babylonian Captivity. When they first arrived King Nebuchadnezzar reigned upon the throne and died 24 years prior—and now his grandson Belshazzar a light weight sits on the throne. Belshazzar, who I call **Mr. Big Stuff**, planned and threw a **Blasphemous** **Banquet**. And **Puffed up by Pride and Power the Potentate (the ability to direct and dictate the affairs of his kingdom) turns the Palace into a Pit of Perversion! Here's Belshazzar he was a highly skilled and influential man.** He had trained peacocks with gold harnesses which pulled miniature chariots loaded with wines and meats. And he also orchestra over 3000 musicians which performed in the garden 24/7! But God is going to crash his party—because in Vs. **1** we see his **Indignation**, Vs. **2** we see his **Intoxication***,* Vs. **3** we see his **Immorality***,* Vs.**4** we see his **Idolatry and “The Hand Writing Is On The Wall”** that God is not pleased with the king’s Belshazzar’s lifestyle!

1. **The Corruption Of The King:**

(Daniel 5:1-4 KJV)

***1*** *Belshazzar the king made a great feast to a thousand of his lords, and drank wine before the thousand. 2 Belshazzar, whiles he tasted the wine, commanded to bring the golden and silver vessels which his father Nebuchadnezzar had taken out of the temple which was in Jerusalem; that the king, and his princes, his wives, and his concubines, might drink therein. 3 Then they brought the golden vessels that were taken out of the temple of the house of God which was at Jerusalem; and the king, and his princes, his wives, and his concubines, drank in them.4 They drank wine, and praised the gods of gold, and of silver, of brass, of iron, of wood, and of stone.*