

## DANIEL 5; July 13; Handwriting on the Wall Dooms Babylon

### ANALYSIS:

1. What greatly troubled king Belshazzar during his feast in Daniel 5?

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2. Since Daniel wasn't at the feast, who told the king about Daniel and his ability to interpret dreams? \_\_\_\_\_
3. How did Daniel respond to the king's offer of riches and promotion if he could interpret the writing? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Before Daniel interpreted the writing on the wall, whose life did Daniel review with Belshazzar? \_\_\_\_\_
5. Name five sins for which God was judging Belshazzar that night.

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### THINGS TO THINK ABOUT:

Like his grandfather\* before him, Belshazzar was lifted up with pride before the great God of heaven. From man's perspective we can easily understand how kings, the greatest men on earth, are so easily filled with pride and arrogance. But since Jehovah made them kings he finds their pride despicable and loathsome. Indeed, God hates all pride, in rich and poor, in great and small. Men have no right to be proud about anything, for everything they have and are is by the blessing of the Almighty God. All men should humble themselves before the God of heaven and give him great thanks and praise for his many blessings.

What are you proud about today? What have you done that you think is pretty special? Humble yourself under the mighty hand of God. Take time right now to bless and praise the Lord for his goodness toward you and for all the blessings he has so mercifully showered upon you. The LORD hates pride, but he loves thanksgiving.

\*See page 144 in Halley's Bible Handbook. Belshazzar ruled Babylon with his father Nabonidus the son of Nebuchadnezzar. This helps explain how Daniel could be "third ruler" in the kingdom (vs 16, 29).

### HELP:

1. When he saw just the hand of a man write some words in the plaster of the wall of the king's palace (v 5).
2. The queen (v 10).
3. He flatly refused the gifts and promotion (v 17).
4. He reviewed the life of Nebuchadnezzar, Belshazzar's grandfather (vv 18-22).
5. Failure to humble himself though he knew about God's judgment on his grandfather Nebuchadnezzar, lifting up himself against the Lord of heaven, drinking wine from the vessels from God's house, praising the gods of gold, silver, brass, iron, wood and stone, ignoring and not praising the God in whose hand his breath was (vs 22-23).