

## The Hand Writing On The Wall – Daniel 5:1-31

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### **Introduction**

1. We have all heard the expression about reading the writing on the wall but in Daniel 5 it is literal. This is one message that you don't want to miss (1 Cor 10:11)...

### **I. Booze And Idolatry In A King's Court (1-4)**

- a. Belshazzar, The King
  - i. He was the last king of Babylon (co-regent) from 553 B.C- 539 B.C.
  - ii. He had a big feast while the armies of the Medes and Persians were about to take the city
  - iii. He had taken the gold and silver vessels from the temple in Jerusalem during this feast
- b. They Praised The god's of Silver and Gold
  - i. The king and his guests foolishly praised the creation rather than the creator
  - ii. Have we ever been found succumbing to idolatry? (Ephesians 5:5; Colossians 3:5)

### **II. Panic And Humiliation In A King's Court (5-9)**

- a. The Hand Writing On The Wall
- b. The Quaking King (Proverbs 16:18)
  - i. How would we stand not just at the fingers of God but face to face?
    1. Psalm 1:5; 24:3-5
- c. The Helpless Advisors (Proverbs 3:5-10)

### **III. The Arrival Of God's Man (10-16)**

- a. The Advice Of The Queen
- b. Daniel Before The Offender

### **IV. The Indictment (17-24)**

- a. Daniel Rejects The King's Reward
- b. Daniel Recounts A Lesson From History
- c. Daniel Rebukes The King (Romans 15:4; 1 Corinthians 10:11)

### **V. The Sentence And Execution (25-31)**

- a. The Hand Writing On The Wall Explained
  - i. Mene – God has numbered your kingdom and finished it
  - ii. Tekel – You have been weighed in the balances and found wanting
  - iii. Peres (Upharsin) – Your kingdom has been divided and given to the Medes and Persians
- b. A Third Of Nothing
- c. This Night Your Soul Will Be Required Of Your

### **VI. Lessons For Today**

- a. Sin often looks like a banquet – 2 Peter 2:13-22
- b. God expects us to learn from the mistakes of others
- c. God judges sin – Acts 24:25; 2 Corinthians 5:10; 2 Peter 3:7