

Even Though You Knew All This: A Presumptuous King Saw the Writing on the Wall

Daniel 5

- I. The proud defy the God they should honor (5:1-9). Belshazzar lifted up himself against the Lord of heaven.
 - A. The proud indulge in celebrating their idols (5:1-4). Belshazzar toasted his gods with the vessels of a “conquered god.”
 - B. The proud cringe at the sight of God’s judgment (5:5-9). Belshazzar was terrified by the writing on the wall.

- II. The proud disregard what they know about God through others (5:10-24). Belshazzar knew about God through the former chief-of-staff and the former king.
 - A. The proud keep their distance from those who know God (5:10-16). Belshazzar had heard about Daniel.
 - B. The proud turn a blind eye to those humbled by God (5:17-24). Belshazzar knew about what had happened to Nebuchadnezzar.

- III. The proud will be removed by God (5:25-31). Belshazzar was replaced by Darius.
 - A. God’s word against the proud is judgment (5:25-28). God had decided Belshazzar’s kingdom was done.
 - B. God’s judgment against the proud will certainly come to pass (5:29-31). Belshazzar lost his kingdom (and his life) that very day.