

1 **THE FINGERS OF GOD IN HISTORY**

Daniel 5:5-9

2 **REVIEW**

- Belshazzar's Feast
- Belshazzar's Folly
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3 **THE FINGERS OF GOD - DANIEL 5:5****4** **THE FINGERS OF GOD IN HISTORY**

- Spelled out the doom of Pharaoh – Exodus 8:19
- Giving the Law to Moses – Exodus 31:18
- Jesus casting out demons – Luke 11:20
- Jesus wrote on the ground with the finger of God- John 8:1-9
- Those fingers gave us the holy record we call the Bible.
- Those same fingers will one day point the finger of guilt.
- Today those fingers beckon an invitation.

5 **THE FEAR OF BELSHAZZAR****6** **FOOLISHNESS OF THE WORLD'S WISDOM**

- 1 Corinthians 2:4-5: *"And my speech and my preaching were not with persuasive words of human wisdom but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power. 5 that your faith should not be in the wisdom of men but in the power of God."*

7 **THE FAME OF DANIEL**

- ¹⁰ *The queen, because of the words of the king and his lords, came to the banquet hall. The queen spoke, saying, "O king, live forever! Do not let your thoughts trouble you, nor let your countenance change. ¹¹ There is a man in your kingdom in whom is the Spirit of the Holy God..... ¹² Inasmuch as an excellent spirit, knowledge, understanding, interpreting dreams, solving riddles, and explaining enigmas were found in this Daniel, whom the king named Belteshazzar, now let Daniel be called, and he will give the interpretation.*

8 **BELSHAZZAR'S CONFESSION**

- ¹³ *Then Daniel was brought in before the king. The king spoke, and said to Daniel, "Are you that Daniel who is one of the captives from Judah, whom my father the king brought from Judah? ¹⁴ I have heard of you, that the Spirit of God is in you, and that light and understanding and excellent wisdom are found in you.*

9 **THE FAITHFULNESS OF DANIEL**

- Daniel 5:17-24
- Keep Your Money
- Record of the Past – vv. 18-31
- Unfortunately, few people ever learn from history – World today – U. S. A. Today – Average life of a nation – About 200 years.

10 **REBUKE FOR BELSHAZZAR, VV. 22-23**

- ²² *But you his son, Belshazzar, have not humbled your heart, although you knew all this. ²³ And you have lifted yourself up against the Lord of heaven. They have brought the vessels of His house before*

you, and you and your lords, your wives and your concubines, have drunk wine from them. And you have praised the gods of silver and gold, bronze and iron, wood and stone, which do not see or hear or know; and the God who holds your breath in His hand and owns all your ways, you have not glorified."

11 **THE FALL OF BABYLON, VV. 25-30**

- *And this is the inscription that was written: MENE, MENE, TEKEL, UPHARSIN. ²⁶ This is the interpretation of each word. MENE: God has numbered your kingdom, and finished it; ²⁷ TEKEL: You have been weighed in the balances, and found wanting; ²⁸ PERES: Your kingdom has been divided, and given to the Medes and Persians." ²⁹ Then Belshazzar gave the command, and they clothed Daniel with purple and put a chain of gold around his neck, and made a proclamation concerning him that he should be the third ruler in the kingdom. ³⁰ That very night Belshazzar, king of the Chaldeans, was slain.*

12 **THE MESSAGE (1)**

- MENE – *"God has numbered your kingdom, and finished it.*
 - To number means to fix or limit its duration as to time.
 - Mene denotes calculation – God's decisions are carefully calculated – The duration of the kingdoms of men are perfectly timed – 4:17: *"The Most High rules in the kingdom of men, Gives it to whomever He will, And sets over it the lowest of men."*

13 **THE MESSAGE (2)**

14 **THE MESSAGE (3)**

- UPHARSIN – *"²⁸ PERES: Your kingdom has been divided, and given to the Medes and Persians."*
- *Peres* is the singular – *Upharsin* is the plural of the same word.
- *Peres* also means Persian or PHARSIN in the plural – Persians, v. 28 – *²⁸ PERES: Your kingdom has been divided, and given to the Medes and Persians."*

15 **CYRUS' PLAN**

- He diverted the waters of the Euphrates River which ran through the city of Babylon.
- His soldiers were then able to walk through the mud into the city and capture it with ease.
- That night the head of gold was removed from the body of the Gentile world power – to be followed by the next kingdom in the image – the breast and arms of silver, the Persian Empire.
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