

Valley Bible Church
Sermon Notes for February 14, 1993

“Belshazzar’s Feast”
Daniel 5

Will some experience a greater judgment because of their privileged position?
Will some suffer a greater punishment? Yes! With greater privilege comes great responsibility.

I. The feast (5:1-4)

It is 539 B.C. Belshazzar is the king, Daniel is now 85-90 years old. The Persians are in the process of marching on Babylon. Belshazzar worships the gods of gold, silver, bronze, iron, wood and stone. He has chosen to war against God.

II. The handwriting (5:5-9)

III. Daniel called before the king (5:10-16)

The “queen” probably Nebuchadnezzar’s wife, gives Belshazzar a history lesson about Daniel. Belshazzar “knew of” Daniel and what he had done to dishonor Daniel’s God. His actions were intentional.

IV. Daniel’s rebuke (6:17-23)

Daniel hives Belshazzar a lesson on God’s dealings with Nebuchadnezzar and Belshazzar’s knowledge of this. “You have not humbled your heart even though you knew all of this.” He had knowledge.

V. Daniel’s interpretations (5:24-31)

1. Mene – god has numbered your kingdom and put an end to it.
2. Tekel – You have been weighted on the scales and found deficient.
3. Upharsin – Your kingdom has been divided and given over to the Medes and Persians.

That very night Belshazzar was slain.

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