

God's Payday Surely Comes  
Daniel 5

I. Developing Question:

In God's economy, does payday always come at the end of the week?

II. Main Lesson: \_\_\_\_\_

A. Feast Enjoyed (vv.1-4)

B. Fear Revealed (vv.5-9)

C. Future discovered (v.10-29)

1. MENE: \_\_\_\_\_

2. TEKEL: \_\_\_\_\_

3. PEREZ: \_\_\_\_\_

D. Fate met (v.30-31)

III. Main Lesson : \_\_\_\_\_

Four Corollaries:

A. \_\_\_\_\_

B. \_\_\_\_\_

C. \_\_\_\_\_

D. \_\_\_\_\_

# God's Payday Surely Comes

## Daniel 5

Belshazzar the king held a great feast for a thousand of his nobles, and he was drinking wine in the presence of the thousand. <sup>2</sup> When Belshazzar tasted the wine, he gave orders to bring the gold and silver vessels which Nebuchadnezzar his father had taken out of the temple which *was* in Jerusalem, in order that the king and his nobles, his wives, and his concubines might drink from them. <sup>3</sup> Then they brought the gold vessels that had been taken out of the temple, the house of God which *was* in Jerusalem; and the king and his nobles, his wives, and his concubines drank from them. <sup>4</sup> They drank the wine and praised the gods of gold and silver, of bronze, iron, wood, and stone.

<sup>5</sup> Suddenly the fingers of a man's hand emerged and began writing opposite the lampstand on the plaster of the wall of the king's palace, and the king saw the back of the hand that did the writing. <sup>6</sup> Then the king's face grew pale, and his thoughts alarmed him; and his hip joints went slack, and his knees began knocking together. <sup>7</sup> The king called aloud to bring in the conjurers, the Chaldeans and the diviners. The king spoke and said to the wise men of Babylon, "Any man who can read this inscription and explain its interpretation to me will be clothed with purple, and *have* a necklace of gold around his neck, and have authority as third *ruler* in the kingdom." <sup>8</sup> Then all the king's wise men came in, but they could not read the inscription or make known its interpretation to the king. <sup>9</sup> Then King Belshazzar was greatly alarmed, his face grew *even* paler, and his nobles were perplexed.

<sup>18</sup> "O king, the Most High God granted sovereignty, grandeur, glory, and majesty to Nebuchadnezzar your father. <sup>19</sup> "And because of the grandeur which He bestowed on him, all the peoples, nations, and *men of every* language feared and trembled before him; whomever he wished he killed, and whomever he wished he spared alive; and whomever he wished he elevated, and whomever he wished he humbled. <sup>20</sup> "But when his heart was lifted up and his spirit became so proud that he behaved arrogantly, he was deposed from his royal throne, and *his* glory was taken away from him. <sup>21</sup> "He was also driven away from mankind, and his heart was made like *that of* beasts, and his dwelling place *was* with the wild donkeys. He was given grass to eat like cattle, and his body was drenched with the dew of heaven, until he recognized that the Most High God is ruler over the realm of mankind, and *that* He sets over it whomever He wishes. <sup>22</sup> "Yet you, his son, Belshazzar, have not humbled your heart, even though you knew all this, <sup>23</sup> but you have exalted yourself against the Lord of heaven; and they have brought the vessels of His house before you, and you and your nobles, your wives and your concubines have been drinking wine from them; and you have praised the gods of silver and gold, of bronze, iron, wood and stone, which do not see, hear or understand. But the God in whose hand are your life-breath and your ways, you have not glorified.

<sup>24</sup> "Then the hand was sent from Him, and this inscription was written out. <sup>25</sup> "Now this is the inscription that was written out: 'MENE, MENE, TEKEL, UPHARSIN.' <sup>26</sup> "This is the interpretation of the message: 'MENE' '-- God has numbered your kingdom and put an end to it. <sup>27</sup> "'TEKEL' '-- you have been weighed on the scales and found deficient. <sup>28</sup> "'PERES' '-- your kingdom has been divided and given over to the Medes and Persians." <sup>29</sup> Then Belshazzar gave orders, and they clothed Daniel with purple and *put* a necklace of gold around his neck, and issued a proclamation concerning him that he *now* had authority as the third *ruler* in the kingdom. <sup>30</sup> That same night Belshazzar the Chaldean king was slain. <sup>31</sup> So Darius the Mede received the kingdom at about the age of sixty-two.

### Bible Study Questions:

1. How similar/different is the life of Belshazzar to/from that of Nebuchadnezzar?
2. How does the story tell us about Daniel? (vv. 11, 17, 22)
3. What is the main lesson? How does the main lesson resonate with 1 Thess 5:3?
4. If God would "TEKEL" (weigh) your life now, how would your life be scaled?