



# RESOLVED

A STUDY OF THE BOOK OF DANIEL



# Book of Daniel

Written approx. 535 BC,  
recording events that  
occurred from 605-535 BC.



But Daniel **made up his mind**  
**[resolved]** that he would not defile  
himself with the king's choice food  
or with the wine which he drank;  
so he sought permission from the  
commander of the officials that he  
might not defile himself.

Daniel 1:8



# Daniel 1:8

וַיִּשֶׁם דָּנִיֵּאל עַל-לִבּוֹ

**way·yā·śem** dā·nî·yêl 'al- lib·bōw

Daniel resolved in his heart

Daniel made up his mind

Daniel purposed in his heart

Daniel determined





# Daniel 5

This chapter begins 10+ years after the end of chapter 4. Nebuchadnezzar is no longer the king of Babylon.



Belshazzar the king [of Babylon] held a great feast for a thousand of his nobles, and he was drinking wine in the presence of the thousand. When Belshazzar tasted the wine, he gave orders to bring the gold and silver vessels which Nebuchadnezzar his [grand] father had taken out of the [Jewish] temple which was in Jerusalem, so that the king and his nobles, his wives and his concubines might drink from them. Daniel 5:1-2



# Kings of the Neo-Babylonian Empire

1. Nabopolassar (627–605 BC)
2. **Nebuchadnezzar (605–562)**
3. Daughter married Evil-Merodach (562–560)
4. Neriglissar (560–556)
5. Nitocris (daughter of Nebuchadnezzar)  
married Nabonidus
6. Labashi-Marduk (2 months, 556)
7. **Belshazzar (553–539)**









# Who was Belshazzar?

- Belshazzar was the last king of Babylon. He was the son of Nabonidus by Nitocris, the daughter of Nebuchadnezzar and the widow of Nergal-Sharezer.  
- Easton's Bible Dictionary
- Belshazzar played a pivotal role in the coup d'etat that overthrew the king Labashi-Marduk (556 BC) and brought Nabonidus to power in 556 BC. As Nabonidus was relatively old at the time, Belshazzar expected to become king within a few years. Nabonidus was absent from Babylon from 553 BC to 543 or 542 BC, in self-imposed exile at Tayma in the Arabian desert.  
- Wikipedia
- Nabonidus was at odds with the Babylonian clergy.  
- Harper's Bible Dictionary
- For the decade-long absence of his father, Belshazzar served as regent (ruling king) in Babylon. - Wikipedia



# Babylonian History

Babylon was being besieged by the Persian army, led by Ugbaru, governor of Gutium, while King Belshazzar, inside the city, was giving a great banquet for 1,000 of his nobles. The city had been under assault by Cyrus of Persia. In anticipation of a long siege the city of Babylon had stored supplies to last for 20 years. The Euphrates River ran through the city from north to south, so the residents had an ample water supply. Belshazzar had a false sense of security because the Persian army was outside Babylon's city walls. - Bible Knowledge Commentary



Then they brought the gold vessels that had been taken out of the [Jewish] temple, the house of God which was in Jerusalem; and the king and his nobles, his wives and his concubines drank from them. They drank the wine and praised the gods of gold and silver, of bronze, iron, wood and stone. Daniel 5:3-4



John Martin  
*Belshazzar's  
Feast*

Archeologists  
have  
excavated a  
large hall in  
Babylon  
55 feet wide  
and 165 feet  
long that had  
plastered  
walls.

- Bible Knowledge Commentary





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. Then the king's face grew pale and his thoughts alarmed him, and his hip joints went slack and his knees began knocking together. Daniel 5:5-6



CRUISE NFL Published March 18, 2022

## Why the Green Bay Packers made the right call with the Davante Adams trade

Matt Johnson



© Mike Stone USA TODAY Sports

The Green Bay Packers shocked everyone except Aaron Rodgers with the Davante Adams trade. Dealing away an All-Pro talent — arguably the best wide receiver in the NFL — is a massive gamble for a win-now team. It was also the right decision by general manager Brian Gutekunst.

Everyone should have seen the writing on the wall before the deal went through. The relationship between Adams and Gutekunst in 2021 over a gap in contract offers. Green Bay applied the franchise tag this offseason, but Adams bought a house in Las Vegas and seemingly committed to Las Vegas long before any deal was finalized.

# “The Writing on the Wall”

## News articles in the last 24 hours

## Hudson Valley officials challenge proposed O&R rate hike proposal

BY SPECTRUM NEWS STAFF | HUDSON VALLEY  
PUBLISHED 1:25 PM ET MAR. 19, 2022

If you've been paying more for your utility bills as of late, you are not alone and it could still go up.

Local utility company Orange & Rockland proposed increased rates for its electric and gas delivery services. It would increase the company's electric revenue by \$24.5 million and gas by almost \$10 million.

Senator James Skoufis spoke out against the proposal and called for rates to not increase at all.

"We're here today to call on Orange & Rockland to read the writing on the wall: struggling Hudson Valley ratepayers can't tolerate these surging bills and they shouldn't be asked to bear an even larger financial burden," Skoufis said in a statement. "O&R must rescind its rate case immediately to ensure residents and small business owners won't be asked to choose between keeping the lights on and feeding their families."

## Perspective: Europe's Farm to Fork Strategy slams into the wall of reality



By Amanda Zaluckyj, The Farmer's Daughter USA • <http://www.thefarmersdaughterusa.com/> • Published: March 18, 2022

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A European farm during wheat harvest. (Image by Elena Bellart, Shutterstock)

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Picture it. A fantasy world where all your farm wishes and whims come true. Black soil covering acres upon acres of pristine farmland. Gentle rains that release just the right amount of water to feed thirsty growing plants. Optimal sunshine to stimulate photosynthesis. Insects that only feed on colorful wild flowers planted in fencerows. And so few weeds you can pluck them by hand during a pleasant afternoon stroll.

Unfortunately, we've all learned we don't live in a fantasy world. Our modern lives are pretty cushy, but there are no guarantees. Whether it's a pandemic or a war in the world's breadbasket, disruptions to supply chains, worker shortages, and bombs are enough to disrupt the things we take for granted.

It seems like some of the world's eco-dreamers are finally recognizing this harsh reality.

In a stunning reversal the European People's Party is abandoning — at least for now — the implementation of the European Union's **Farm to Fork Strategy**. Why? Because they see the writing on the wall: Russia's invasion of Ukraine is going to disrupt European agricultural markets. So the EPP, the European Parliament's





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 shall be clothed with purple and have a necklace of gold around his neck, and have authority as third ruler in the kingdom.” Then all the king’s wise men came in, but they could not read the inscription or make known its interpretation to the king. Daniel 5:7-8





# ***Belshazzar's Feast***

by Rembrandt

found in The  
National  
Gallery,  
London





Then King Belshazzar was greatly alarmed, his face grew even paler, and his nobles were perplexed. The queen [mother of the king] entered the banquet hall because of the words of the king and his nobles; the queen spoke and said, “O king, live forever! Do not let your thoughts alarm you or your face be pale.” Daniel 5:9-10





“There is a man in your kingdom in whom is a spirit of the holy gods; and in the days of your father, illumination, insight and wisdom like the wisdom of the gods were found in him. And King Nebuchadnezzar, your [grand] father, your father the king, appointed him chief of the magicians, conjurers, Chaldeans and diviners.”

Daniel 5:11



“This was because an extraordinary spirit, knowledge and insight, interpretation of dreams, explanation of enigmas and solving of difficult problems were found in this Daniel, whom the king [Nebuchadnezzar] named Belteshazzar. Let Daniel now be summoned and he will declare the interpretation.” Daniel 5:12

\*Belshazzar is NOT Belteshazzar



Then Daniel was brought in before the king. The king spoke and said to Daniel, “Are you that Daniel who is one of the exiles from Judah, whom my father the king brought from Judah? Now I have heard about you that a spirit of the gods is in you, and that illumination, insight and extraordinary wisdom have been found in you.” Daniel 5:13-14

\*Daniel was taken captive in Judah as a teenager. He is now likely in his 60s.





“Just now the wise men and the conjurers were brought in before me that they might read this inscription and make its interpretation known to me, but they could not declare the interpretation of the message.”

Daniel 5:15



# Today's World

- Leaders are trying in vain to see what will happen in the future
- Leaders are unable to read the signs

The Lord said, “Look among the nations! Observe! Be astonished! Wonder! Because I am doing something in your days— you would not believe if you were told.” Habakkuk 1:5



“But I personally have heard about you, that you are able to give interpretations and solve difficult problems. Now if you are able to read the inscription and make its interpretation known to me, you will be clothed with purple and wear a necklace of gold around your neck, and you will have authority as the third ruler in the kingdom.” Daniel 5:16





Then Daniel answered and said before the king, “Keep your gifts for yourself or give your rewards to someone else; however, I will read the inscription to the king and make the interpretation known to him. O king, the Most High God [עֵלְ עֵלְיוֹן אֵל] granted sovereignty, grandeur, glory and majesty to Nebuchadnezzar your [grand] father.”  
Daniel 5:17-18



“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. 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.” Daniel 5:19-20



“He [Nebuchadnezzar] was also driven away from mankind, and his heart was made like that of beasts, and his dwelling place was with the wild donkeys [Daniel 4]. 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. Yet you, his [grand] son, Belshazzar, have not humbled your heart, even though you knew all this, ” Daniel 5:21-22





“but you have exalted yourself against the Lord of heaven; and they have brought the vessels of His house [Temple in Jerusalem] 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 all your ways, you have not glorified. Then the hand was sent from Him and this inscription was written out.” Daniel 5:23-24



Daniel said,  
“Now this is the inscription  
that was written out:  
MENĒ, MENĒ, TEKĒL,  
UPHARSIN.”  
Daniel 5:25



מנא מנא תקל ופרסין

Mene mene tekul upharsin

Why could the king's other advisors NOT read the writing on the wall?





\***Mene** is an Aramaic noun referring to a weight of 50 shekels (a mina, equal to 1 1/4 pounds). It is from the verb menâh, “to number, to reckon.”

\***Tekel** is a noun referring to a shekel (2/5 of an ounce). It is from the verb teqāl, “to weigh.”

\***Parsin** is a plural noun meaning a half-mina (25 shekels, or about 2/3 of a pound). It is from the verb peras, “to break in two, to divide.” The word on the wall was actually Ūparsîn, which means “and Parsin.”



“This is the interpretation of the message: ‘MENĒ’ —**God has numbered your kingdom and put an end to it.** ‘TEKĒL’ —**you have been weighed on the scales and found deficient.** ‘PERĒS’ —**your kingdom has been divided and given over to the Medes and Persians.**”

Daniel 5:26-28



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. That same night **Belshazzar the Chaldean king was slain.** So Darius the Mede received the kingdom at about the age of sixty-two. Daniel 5:29-31

\*Belshazzar died after Babylon fell to the Persian general Gobyras without resistance, and probably before the Persian king Cyrus II entered the city 17 days later. - <https://www.britannica.com/biography/Belshazzar>





# Babylonian History

The Persian army was divided; part was stationed where the river entered the city at the north and the other part was positioned where the river exited from the city at the south. The army diverted the water north of the city by digging a canal from the river to a nearby lake. With the water diverted, its level receded, and the soldiers were able to enter the city by going under the sluice gate. Since the walls were unguarded the Persians, once inside the city, were able to conquer it without a fight. The defeat of Babylon fulfilled not only the prophecy Daniel made earlier that same night (5:28) but also a prophecy in Isaiah 47:1–5. The overthrow of Babylon took place the night of the 16th of Tishri (October 12, 539 BC). - Bible Knowledge Commentary



# Prophecy Fulfilled

“Come down and sit in the dust, O virgin daughter of Babylon; sit on the ground without a throne, O daughter of the Chaldeans! For you shall no longer be called tender and delicate. Take the millstones and grind meal. Remove your veil, strip off the skirt, uncover the leg, cross the rivers. Your nakedness will be uncovered, your shame also will be exposed; I will take vengeance and will not spare a man.” Our Redeemer, the Lord of hosts is His name, the Holy One of Israel. “Sit silently, and go into darkness, O daughter of the Chaldeans, for you will no longer be called the queen of kingdoms.” Isaiah 47:1-5

\*written 150+ years before the events of Daniel 5



Daniel explained it to mean that God had "numbered" the kingdom of Belshazzar and brought it to an end; that the king had been "weighed" and found wanting; and that his kingdom was "divided" and given to the Medes and Persians.

Just as Daniel had said, the kingdom of Babylon was divided between the Medes and Persians, and it happened that very night. Belshazzar was slain, and his kingdom passed to Darius the Mede (Daniel 5:30–31).





Drawing  
of King  
Nebuchadnezzar's  
dream

Daniel chapter 2



# ***Lessons from Daniel 5***

1. As created beings, we ought to live humbly, recognizing God's authority and power.
2. Earthly leaders have power or influence only because the sovereign God allows it.
3. God has called us to a lifetime of obedience, not a short or occasional walk with Him.
4. Like Daniel, obedience to God does not guarantee the absence of struggles in our lives.
5. Like Daniel, leaders who humbly serve God will stand even when ungodly leaders fall.



## Daniel 5:26-28

- MENĒ—God has numbered your kingdom and put an end to it
- TEKĒL—you have been weighed on the scales and found deficient
- PERĒS—your kingdom has been divided

**What is God doing today?**





**What about other kings/leaders?**

**What about other kingdoms?**

**What about the United States?**



**Sermon by  
Rev. Billy Graham  
St. Louis, MO  
1973**



- Youtube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qJT7MjxkRrk>

- Begin at 19:51 “is God writing on the wall...”
- End at 22:09 after “consuming fire”





## Daniel 5:26-28

- MENĒ—God has numbered your kingdom and put an end to it
- TEKĒL—you have been weighed on the scales and found deficient
- PERĒS—your kingdom has been divided

**What about me?**