

The Book of Daniel

Part 5: The Fall of Babylon

Recap The Book of Daniel Series

- ◇ Israel is Conquered by Babylon & Established as Leader in Babylon
- ◇ Nebuchadnezzar Has Dreams that Daniel Interprets & Praises God
- ◇ Nebuchadnezzar is Shown Babylon's Fall by God & Turns from Pride and is Humbled Before God

A Great Banquet

- ◇ Daniel 5:1-4
- ◇ Belshazzar is Ruling Babylon- October 12, 539 BC
 - ◇ Belshazzar- "Bel Protect the King" - Son of Nabonidus
 - ◇ City Surrounded by the Persian Armies
 - ◇ 1000 Nobles Assembled at Party- Showing Confidence/Strength
 - ◇ Brings in Vessels from Sanctuary- Worship gods of Gold, Silver, Bronze, Iron, Wood and Stone. Vs 4
 - ◇ He Knows the Prophecy of Daniel 2-
 - ◇ Defiance of God- his kingdom shall last- confident in his strength.

God Shows Up

- ◇ Daniel 5:5-12
- ◇ Handwriting on the Wall- Something Bad is About to Happen
- ◇ King Loses all Confidence
- ◇ Wisemen Incapable of Interpreting the Inscription
- ◇ Queen Mother Recommends Daniel be Summoned
- ◇ Daniel is in 70s or 80s- Retired.
 - ◇ Not too Old to Serve- Honor Long Obedience.
 - ◇ *"Stand up in the presence of the elderly, honor the aged." Leviticus 19:32*
- ◇ Daniel 5:13-16
- ◇ Referred to as Daniel- NOT Belshazzar-
 - ◇ Belshazzar- May Bell Protect His Life
 - ◇ Daniel- God is My King - Showdown of the gods!
- ◇ Daniel is Offered Authority in the Kingdom

Daniel Responds First

- ◇ Daniel 5:17-24
- ◇ Keep Your Gifts!
- ◇ Nebuchadnezzar's Conversion Experience
- ◇ *"When his heart was lifted up and his spirit became so proud that he behaved arrogantly, he was deposed from his royal throne." Vs. 20*
- ◇ *"Until he recognized that the Most High God is ruler." Vs 21*
- ◇ Daniel Calls Him Out- Belshazzar is Proud
- ◇ *"Yet you, his son, Belshazzar, have not humbled your heart, even though you knew all this, but you have exalted yourself against the Lord of heaven." Vs. 22-23*

Daniel Interprets Dream

- ◇ Daniel 5:25-28
- ◇ Menē, Menē, Tekēl, Upharsin
- ◇ *“God has numbered your kingdom and put an end to it. You have been weighed in the scales and found deficient. Your Kingdom has been divided and given over to the Medes and Persians.”* Vs. 26-28
- ◇ Daniel Given Robes and Proclaimed Third Ruler in the Kingdom

Judgement Falls

- ◇ Daniel 5:30-31
- ◇ Belshazzar Slain and Babylon Falls

Fall of Babylon

- ◇ Jeremiah Predicted Babylon's Fall
- ◇ *“Suddenly Babylon has fallen and been broken.”* Jeremiah 51:8
- ◇ *“‘Then heaven and earth and all that is in them will shout for joy over Babylon, for the destroyers will come to her from the north,’* Declares the Lord.” Jeremiah 51:48
- ◇ John, another Prophet, was Given a Vision of Babylon:
- ◇ *“Fallen, fallen is Babylon the great.”* Revelation 14:8
- ◇ *“Rejoice over her, O heaven, and you saints and apostles and prophets, because God has pronounced judgment for you against her.”* Revelation 18:20
- ◇ Belshazzar Knows That:
 - ◇ Babylon will Fall, The God of Heaven is True God, He Must Humble Himself Before God , Do It Before the Fall of Babylon
- ◇ He Had a Choice and He Chooses Pride! - He is Judged and is Lost!

Fall of Spiritual Babylon

- ◇ Final Spiritual Babylon Will Fall
- ◇ God Leaves Us Free to Choose
- ◇ Today is the Day to Decide
- ◇ *“Behold, now is ‘the acceptable time,’ behold, now is ‘the day of salvation.’”* 2 Corinthians 6:2
- ◇ Babylon Will Fall - Judgment will Come
- ◇ *“The Lord is not slow about His promise, as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing for any to perish but for all to come to repentance.”* 2 Peter 3:9
- ◇ Judgment Will Come
- ◇ *“But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, in which the heavens will pass away with a roar and the elements will be destroyed with intense heat, and the earth and its works will be burned up.”* 2 Peter 3:10
- ◇ Humble Yourself and Turn to God of Heaven
- ◇ *“Since all these things are to be destroyed in this way, what sort of people ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness.”* 2 Peter 3:11