

Fulfilled Prophecies

[Home](#)

>

[Other](#)

>

[Share on Facebook](#)[FACEBOOK LINK](#)

Daniel 5 This study has not been posted on facebook yet



By Dan Maines

Daniel 5

Daniel 5:1–2

Belshazzar the king 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 father had taken out of the temple which was in Jerusalem, so that the king and his nobles, his wives, and his concubines might drink from them.

† Belshazzar's feast represents arrogance against God, as sacred vessels were defiled for drunken pleasure.

† Historically, this event occurred the night Babylon fell to the Medes and Persians in 539 BC.

† Prophetically, this shows how divine judgment falls suddenly on the proud and irreverent.

† Josephus confirmed that Belshazzar's feast occurred during the empire's final hours.

† In the fulfilled kingdom, this reminds us that the misuse of what is holy brings swift correction.

Daniel 5:3–4

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. They drank the wine and praised the gods of gold and silver, of bronze, iron, wood and stone.

† The vessels symbolized God's presence, and their misuse mocked the holiness of His name.

† Historically, Belshazzar's act of idolatry was a direct insult to the God of Israel.

† Prophetically, this scene mirrors how Israel misused God's blessings before judgment fell.

† Jerome noted that their blasphemy against the sacred led to their swift downfall.

† In the fulfilled kingdom, all glory and worship belong to Christ alone, not to the works of men.

Daniel 5:5–6

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.

† The sudden hand of God broke through the king's pride and drunkenness.

† Historically, ancient palaces were lit by oil lamps that made the divine writing visible to all.

† Prophetically, this reveals God's immediate judgment upon those who defile what is holy.

† Theodotion described Belshazzar's terror as the collapse of false confidence.

† In the fulfilled kingdom, God still exposes pride and reveals the writing of truth on every heart.

Daniel 5:7–9

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. Then King Belshazzar was greatly alarmed, his face grew even paler, and his nobles were perplexed.

† The king's desperation showed how powerless human wisdom was against divine revelation.

† Historically, Babylon's scholars used various languages, but none could interpret the heavenly message.

† Prophetically, this points to the silence of false religion before God's final judgment.

† Eusebius wrote that the confusion of the wise revealed the superiority of God's prophets.

† In the fulfilled kingdom, only those who know the Spirit's voice can discern divine truth.

Daniel 5:10–12

The queen 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. 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... Now let Daniel be summoned and he will declare the interpretation."

† The queen remembered Daniel, showing that God's servant was still honored even when forgotten by men.

† Historically, this queen was likely the widow of Nebuchadnezzar or the mother of Belshazzar.

† Prophetically, Daniel represents the voice of truth that reappears in times of apostasy.

† Jerome said that Daniel's enduring reputation showed that divine wisdom never fades.

† In the fulfilled kingdom, God's faithful messengers are always raised up in moments of judgment.

Daniel 5:13–16

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

† Belshazzar recognized Daniel's reputation but treated him as a captive rather than a prophet.

† Historically, Daniel had served under multiple kings, showing his long-standing faithfulness.

† Prophetically, this parallels how Israel's prophets were often honored too late.

† Clement remarked that Daniel sought no earthly reward but gave truth freely.

† In the fulfilled kingdom, true servants of God speak truth without seeking earthly honor.

Daniel 5:17

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."

† Daniel refused reward, showing that God's message cannot be bought.

† Historically, prophets rejected bribes to preserve the integrity of divine revelation.

† Prophetically, Daniel's boldness foreshadows the apostolic courage of the first-century witnesses.

† Jerome noted that Daniel spoke freely because he feared God, not men.

† In the fulfilled kingdom, truth is proclaimed for God's glory, not for human gain.

Daniel 5:18–21

"O king, the Most High God granted sovereignty, grandeur, glory, and majesty to Nebuchadnezzar your father... 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... until he recognized that the Most High God is ruler over the realm of mankind and that He sets over it whomever He wishes."

† Daniel reminded Belshazzar of his father's humbling, showing that he had ignored history's lesson.

† Historically, Babylon's pride reached its peak under Belshazzar.

† Prophetically, this speech warned that rebellion against divine authority leads to destruction.

† Hippolytus wrote that Daniel's reminder exposed the blindness of those who inherit power but not wisdom.

† In the fulfilled kingdom, remembrance of God's justice keeps pride from rising again.

Daniel 5:22–23

"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; 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... but the God in whose hand are your life-breath and your ways, you have not glorified."

† Daniel condemned Belshazzar's willful defiance despite knowing God's past dealings.

† Historically, this moment sealed Babylon's fate.

† Prophetically, this mirrors Israel's rejection of God's warnings before judgment in AD 70.

† Jerome declared that willful sin after knowledge is the most dangerous form of pride.

† In the fulfilled kingdom, all who exalt themselves are humbled before Christ's authority.

Daniel 5:24–28

"Then the hand was sent from Him and this inscription was written out: MENE, MENE, TEKEL, UPHARSIN. This is the interpretation of the message: MENE, God has numbered your kingdom and put an end to it. TEKEL, you have been weighed on the scales and found deficient. PERES, your kingdom has been divided and given over to the Medes and Persians."

† God's message was brief but final, showing the precision of divine justice.

† Historically, these Aramaic words were both numerical and moral judgments.

† Prophetically, this foreshadowed the end of all earthly dominions before Christ's eternal kingdom.

† Eusebius explained that the numbering and division of Babylon symbolized the passing of the old order.

† In the fulfilled kingdom, every human kingdom has fallen, and Christ's reign endures forever.

Daniel 5:29–31

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 received honor, but the kingdom perished the same night.

† Historically, Babylon fell swiftly to Cyrus's army without resistance.

† Prophetically, this shows the sudden end of all who exalt themselves against God's authority.

† Josephus confirmed that Babylon's fall came exactly as Daniel foretold.

† In the fulfilled kingdom, God's sovereignty stands unshaken as every earthly power fades away.

How it applies to us today

† Daniel 5 reminds us that God's judgment is sure, and pride leads to downfall.

† Earthly kingdoms rise and fall, but the fulfilled kingdom endures forever.

† The writing on the wall warns all who dishonor God's holiness.

† Believers must walk humbly, knowing that God weighs every heart in truth.

† In Christ's eternal kingdom, righteousness and reverence are our lasting foundation.

† This is the fulfilled perspective we proclaim at Fulfilled Prophecies †

© Fulfilled Prophecies - Dan Maines.

Source Index

- † The Holy Bible, NASB
- † Josephus, Antiquities of the Jews, Book 10
- † Eusebius, Ecclesiastical History, Book 9
- † Tertullian, Against Marcion, Book 4
- † Clement of Rome, 1 Clement
- † Jerome, Commentary on Daniel
- † Theodotion, Greek Version of Daniel
- † Hippolytus, Commentary on Daniel

Share on Facebook

Links

Facebook Link <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1349070089314462/posts/>

Fulfilled Prophecies <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1349070089314462/>

Dan Maines

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1349070089314462/user/100001027365819/>

You may share this article freely without permission as long as you include credit to Dan Maines and/or a link to the Fulfilled Prophecies Group.