

## **Recognizing God Rules**

Daniel 5:1-31

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### **I. Repent of your Pride or it will destroy you!**

#### **A. Party instead of Prepare**

**Daniel 5:1** “King Belshazzar made a great feast for a thousand of his lords and drank wine in front of the thousand.”

#### **B. Fear instead of Faith**

**Daniel 5:6** “Then the king’s color changed, and his thoughts alarmed him; his limbs gave way, and his knees knocked together.”

#### **C. Riches instead of Repentance**

**Daniel 5:29** “Then Belshazzar gave the command, and Daniel was clothed in purple, a chain of gold was put around his neck, and a proclamation was made about him, that he should be the third ruler in the kingdom.”

“There is no human wall so high, no human accomplishment so great, that it is secure against the judgment of God. God will bring every deed into judgment. No matter how great the man, how hidden the means, or how long the practice has continued, God ultimately will prevail.”

-Bryan Chapell “The Gospel According To Daniel” pg 97

### **II. Remember God’s character to keep yourself humble!**

#### **A. God Gives Power – v. 18-19**

**Daniel 5:18-21** “O King, the Most High God gave Nebuchadnezzar your father kingship and greatness and glory and majesty. And because of the greatness that he gave him, all peoples, nations, and languages trembled and feared before him. Whom he would, he killed, and whom he would, he kept alive; and whom he humbled.

#### **B. God Takes Power – v. 20-21**

**Daniel 5:20-21** “But when his heart was lifted up and his spirit was hardened so that he dealt proudly, he was brought down from his kingly throne, and his glory was taken from him. He was driven from among the children of mankind, and his mind was made like that of a beast, and his dwelling was with the wild donkeys. He was fed grass like an ox,

and his body was wet with the dew of heaven, until he knew that the Most High God rules the kingdom of mankind and sets over it whom he will.”

**Daniel 5:22** "And you son, Belshazzar, have not humbled your heart, though you knew all this,"

In God’s people, the ultimate enemy of faith is forgetfulness!

### **III. Relax...God will always vindicate His name!**

#### **A. God vindicated his name by humbling Belshazzar**

Mene – Your days are numbered

Tekel – Weighed, Balanced, and Wanting

Parsin – Kingdom Divided

#### **B. God vindicated his name at the Cross providing grace for those who repent**

“Mene, Tekel, Peres is not ultimately the handwriting against Belshazzar; it is the handwriting of God for us. By his hand God warns us of our sin. On the cross of Jesus we see that handwriting in its boldest and brightest strokes, for there the script is written in the blood of God’s own Son...God warns us of his judgment so that we will seek the son who already assumed it.”

-Bryan Chapell “The Gospel According To Daniel” pg 105

#### **C. God will vindicate his name when Jesus returns**

Our hope is not in rulers, politics, resources, or position...it is in God. He will accomplish ALL he has planned.