

Daniel and King Belshazzar
Lesson 13
Daniel 5-6:3

The two visions Daniel had been shown took place in the 1st and 3rd years of King Belshazzar's reign. The next story of Daniel picks up 14 years later. King Belshazzar was giving a great banquet.

1. Who does it say attended this banquet? (Daniel 5:1 & 2)

2. Heavy drinking using the very best of the wines was part of these royal banquets. While in a very festive mood, what did King Belshazzar decide to do? (Daniel 5:2)

3. His orders were immediately carried out and the items were brought to the banquet hall. What did the people do then? (Daniel 5:3 & 4)

4. *"Suddenly the fingers of a human hand appeared."* What did these fingers do? (Daniel 5:5a)

5. How did the king react to this unusual event as he watched the fingers? (Daniel 5:6)

6. He called for the enchanters, astrologers and diviners to be brought to him. These were called *'wise men'* because they were supposed to be able to interpret dreams and omens from the gods. What did he ask of these *'wise men'* and how did he show the importance of his request? (Daniel 5:7)

7. With that type of incentive, how successful was he in receiving his request? (Daniel 5:8)

8. *"So King Belshazzar became even more terrified and his face grew more pale. His nobles were baffled."* Who came to the rescue? (Daniel 5:10)

- How? (Daniel 5:11 & 12)
9. The king listened to this advice and called for Daniel to be brought in. What was the first thing King Belshazzar asked Daniel? (Daniel 5:13)
 10. What information does the king give Daniel? (Daniel 5:14 & 15)
 11. Then the king asked Daniel to read and interpret the writing offering the same reward to Daniel that he had offered his *'wise men.'* How did Daniel answer the king? (Daniel 5:17)
 12. What do you think Daniel was telling the king with that answer?
 13. What does that answer tell you about the character of Daniel? (See also Daniel 1:8; 2:26-28a)
 14. Then Daniel proceeded to give King Belshazzar a history lesson. What was King Belshazzar's current state of being? (Daniel 5:1, 6 & 9)
 15. Where did Daniel begin Belshazzar's history lesson? (Daniel 5:18 & 19)

- 16. Daniel hit hard with his next statement. What did he say in verse 20?

- 17. How did that actually take place? (Daniel 5:21)

- 18. Daniel finally got to the purpose of the history lesson. What was the point he was making to the king? (Daniel 5:22-24)

- 19. Then Daniel proceeded to read and interpret the message. Using Daniel 5:26-28 fill in the following chart with what each Aramaic word meant.

Mene	
Tekel	
Peres	

- 20. How did King Belshazzar respond to Daniel's ability to interpret the writing? (Daniel 5:29)

- 21. After all the pomp was completed, what happened? (Daniel 5:30 & 31)

- 22. Think about the position Daniel was left in at this very critical time. How do you think this position could affect Daniel with the fall of the Babylonian Empire?

23. What had Daniel just told King Belshazzar about who rules? (Daniel 5:21b)
24. Daniel's confidence in His God remained unshaken. He was in a very precarious position-one he did not choose but one he now held. King #1 (Nabonidus) and King #2 (Belshazzar) were both dead. That left the third ruler of the kingdom, Daniel to stand for Babylon. Explain what happened to Daniel. (Daniel 6:1-3)