


Joyful Life Bible Studies

Daniel 5:1-31

Lesson 7

FIRST DAY: Review and Overview

1. Review Daniel 4:1-37. In what way have the examples, truths or warnings in these verses influenced your life this week?
2. Every chapter of Daniel has a remarkable way of expanding our view of God. In Daniel 5 we will see God's message to a prideful king given in a supernatural way. Chapter Five introduces us to a new king named Belshazzar, who was King Nebuchadnezzar's grandson. There is a gap of about twenty years between Daniel 4 and 5. Read Daniel 5:1-31 and give this chapter a brief title.
3. Recognizing that prayer is an essential part of personal Bible study, take a few moments to express to the Lord your greatest desire and need in relationship to your lesson this week. Write your prayer here.

*Speak Your will to me, Your purpose.
Make my heart Your dwelling place,
set apart for You Lord, willing to obey.*
-selected 

THIRD DAY: Read Daniel 5:10-17

1. Through today's study we will see the sovereign hand of God. Read Daniel 5:10-12. Print the essence of the queen's advice to the king by filling in the following blanks from verse 12b. Note: The *queen* was not Belshazzar's wife, but probably his mother or grandmother.

...now let _____ be _____, and he _____ the interpretation.

- a. Consider Daniel's reputation by recording a few of the queen's statements about him from verses 11,12.

Personal: As a believer, what would you like the world to note about you?

- b. At this time Daniel was almost ninety years old, perhaps forgotten by Belshazzar and the majority of those living in Babylon. The Lord had not forgotten Daniel. In fact, God had another assignment for him. How does this encourage you today?

2. Read the next sequence of events from Daniel 5:13-16 when *Daniel was brought in before the king*. Summarize what the king said to Daniel in the following verses:

- a. verse 13

- b. verse 14

- c. verse 15

- d. verse 16

3. Think about the gifts and rewards Belshazzar offered to Daniel (Daniel 5:16b) if he could interpret the mysterious writing on the wall. Print Daniel's response from Daniel 5:17a. Selah.

- a. What influence does the offer of wealth, power or position often have on the choices people make?

- b. How is Daniel an example for you?

FOURTH DAY: Read Daniel 5:18-24

1. Pastor Chuck says: *Daniel was a faithful prophet, for he preached to Belshazzar before he gave the interpretation of the writing on the wall.* With this in mind read Daniel 5:18-24. Consider Daniel's powerful message by writing what he said in these verses about:

a. God

(1.) Daniel often referred to the Lord as *the most high God*. Think about the significance of this description and be prepared to share your thoughts with your group.

b. Nebuchadnezzar

c. Belshazzar

2. What does Daniel 5:18-24 reveal to you about Daniel's character?

a. What do you desire to apply to your life from Daniel's example?

3. Look once more at the following declaration from Daniel 5:23c NKJV: *and the God who holds your breath in His hand and owns all your ways. . . .* In what way does this truth expand your knowledge of God or enhance your appreciation of Him?

*He Himself gives life and breath to everything,
and He satisfies every need there is.*
Acts 17:25b NLT

FIFTH DAY: Read Daniel 5:25-30

1. In Daniel 5:25-28 Daniel solved the mystery of the handwriting on the wall. From verses 26-28 record the *interpretation* for the following words:
 - a. *MENE*
 - b. *TEKEL*
 - c. *PERES* (Note: *UPHARSIN* is the plural form of *PERES*.)
 - d. Comment on the finality of God's statement.
2. Daniel was courageous and faithful to deliver the message of God in spite of the risks involved. The king honored his promise to Daniel. What temporal reward did Daniel receive? Answer from Daniel 5:29.
 - a. What keeps us from courageously and faithfully sharing God's message with others?

(1.) How can we overcome these hindrances?

3. God used Daniel to inform and warn Belshazzar of His impending judgment. God's message should have convinced, convicted, and converted him *that night*. Instead, what happened? Answer by filling in the missing words from Daniel 5:30,31:

In that _____ Belshazzar _____ of the Chaldeans _____.

And _____ the Median _____, being about threescore

and two (62) years old.

Advanced Students: Research and write a brief report of how Darius, the Mede, was able to enter and conquer the city of Babylon that night.

4. The city of Babylon fell and Belshazzar was killed *that very night* (Daniel 5:30a NKJV). How does this speak to you about the certainty and reliability of God's Word?

God said it, I believe it and that settles it!

SIXTH DAY: Review Daniel 5:1-31

1. Share a way your study of Daniel 5:1-31 has enriched, enhanced or expanded your knowledge or understanding of God.
 - a. How will this affect your worship of Him?
 - b. In response to this write a sentence of praise to *the most high God*.
2. From Daniel 5:18-28 recall Daniel's bold rebuke of Belshazzar and his courage in giving the interpretation of the writing on the wall to this powerful king. In what way does Daniel's life inspire you be a godly influence and witness to the people around you?
3. How can we avoid the sins of Nebuchadnezzar and Belshazzar?
4. What additional instruction or encouragement have you received from your study this week?

*Holy, holy, holy is our Lord God Almighty.
He alone is worthy, awesome Lord, mighty King.
He reigns through all the universe.
His glory covers all the earth.
His power's displayed in mighty works
and we proclaim Him as our Lord and King.
-selected 🎵*