

Title: **Unlikely Source for GOD'S Likely Purpose**

Holy Bible Scripture: Daniel 5 (unless noted, all verses are from Holman Christian Standard Bible, HCSB)

Written: Thursday, March 15, 2012

Place: Florida

Time: 7:07 a.m.

**Daniel speaking to King Belshazzar:**

**Daniel 5:**

3 - *So they brought in the gold vessels that had been taken from the temple, the house of God in Jerusalem, and the king and his nobles, wives, and concubines drank from them.*

4 - *They drank the wine and praised their gods made of gold and silver, bronze, iron, wood, and stone.*

17 - *Then Daniel answered the king, "You may keep your gifts, and give your rewards to someone else; however, I will read the inscription for the king and make the interpretation known to him.*

**Daniel speaking about Nebuchadnezzar to King Belshazzar:**

**Daniel 5**

20 - *But when his heart was exalted and his spirit became arrogant, he was deposed from his royal throne and his glory was taken from him.*

21 - *He was driven away from people, his mind was like an animal's, he lived with the wild donkeys, he was fed grass like cattle, and his body was drenched with dew from the sky until he acknowledged that the Most High God is ruler over the kingdom of men and sets anyone He wants over it.*

22 - *"But you his successor, Belshazzar, have not humbled your heart, even though you knew all this.*

23 - *Instead, you have exalted yourself against the Lord of heaven. The vessels from His house were brought to you, and as you and your nobles, wives, and concubines drank wine from them, you praised the gods made of silver and gold, bronze, iron, wood, and stone, which do not see or hear or understand. But you have not glorified the God who holds your life-breath in His hand and who controls the whole course of your life.*

24 - *Therefore, He sent the hand, and this writing was inscribed.*

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When a person becomes arrogant and prideful in his heart and exalts himself above the LORD, the LORD will allow and cause that person to go into a “darkness” of mind. The arrogant heart person who feels that he is above GOD Almighty by worshiping and idolizing other gods will live in a condition of debauchery lifestyle. Having a depraved mind will lead to wicked actions because the person exalted himself or herself against the LORD and did not glorify the LORD. Pride and arrogance comes very indirectly from the lust of our hearts and the lusts of our eyes. No one says, “I am going to become prideful and arrogant today!” Most people believe they are working toward a greater goal for betterment of himself or herself, family, and even the community. The problem of sinning starts when the effort, situation, or matter becomes an arrogant-prideful-lustful-selfish-idol-worshiping god. When the circumstances itself becomes a god, whether it is our thinking, our intellect, our materials, even the very pursuit of gaining a thing, whatever it is, becomes an idol god. We need to pray always to the LORD God Almighty first, asking and seeking with a humble sincere heart His answers and support about the matter or condition. Second, we patiently wait for His directions and guidance in the issue. Third, we obey God’s answer to our concerns and problems.

***Ezekiel 23***

*28 - "For this is what the Lord God says: I am going to hand you over to those you hate, to those you turned away from in disgust.*

*29 They will treat you with hatred, take all you have worked for, and leave you stark naked, so that the shame of your debauchery will be exposed, both your indecency and promiscuity.*

*30 These things will be done to you because you acted like a prostitute with the nations, defiling yourself with their idols.*

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**2 Peter 2:**

13 - *suffering harm as the payment for unrighteousness. They consider it a pleasure to carouse in the daytime. They are blots and blemishes, delighting in their deceptions as they feast with you,*

14 - *having eyes full of adultery and always looking for sin, seducing unstable people, and with hearts trained in greed. Accursed children!*

15 - *By abandoning the straight path, they have gone astray and have followed the path of Balaam, the son of Bosor, who loved the wages of unrighteousness,*

16 - *but received a rebuke for his transgression: a speechless donkey spoke with a human voice and restrained the prophet's madness.*

17 - *These people are springs without water, mists driven by a whirlwind. The gloom of darkness has been reserved for them.*

18 - *For uttering bombastic, empty words, they seduce, by fleshly desires and debauchery, people who have barely escaped from those who live in error.*

19 - *They promise them freedom, but they themselves are slaves of corruption, since people are enslaved to whatever defeats them.*

20 - *For if, having escaped the world's impurity through the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again entangled in these things and defeated, the last state is worse for them than the first.*

**From Daniel 5: Speaking about what happened to Nebuchadnezzar:**

**Verse 21 - He was driven away from people, ---**

The LORD will place arrogant heart people in a type of isolation process. A person's normal associations and friends will be done away with, so God may start the purifying, purging, and pruning of the wrong heart, mind, soul, and spirit. There will be a separation from ungodly association in preparation for Godly service.

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***Verse 21 - his mind was like an animal's, ---***

The LORD will cause a mental darkness of understanding of Him and His word when a person becomes arrogant and prideful in his heart and exalting himself.

***Verse 21 - he lived with the wild donkeys ---***

The LORD will cause arrogant heart people to have wild and ungodly associations. Because of the prideful and exalted thinking, the LORD will allow and cause a barren lifestyle with many challenges from spiritual darkened people.

***Verse 21 - he was fed grass like cattle, ---***

The LORD will allow and cause prideful hearted person to eat unhealthy and harmful food not fit for his body. In turn, when the arrogant spirited person digest unhealthy foods it will result in unwholesome mind and soul.

***Verse 21 - and his body was drenched with dew from the sky ---***

Nebuchadnezzar body was drenched with dew from the sky because the LORD removed His arm of protection. The prideful in heart will fall that will cause the LORD to become standoffish in responding to a person's trials. Haughty thinking and acting individuals will become drenched with the dew from the sky that represents an individual not having God's protective shelter around him.

***Verse 24 - Therefore, He sent the hand, and this writing was inscribed.***

It was the LORD, Himself, that sent the hand to write upon the wall.

The LORD could have easily killed Belshazzar, instantly, but God was using Belshazzar's arrogance and self-exaltedness attitude for a merciful and graceful lesson to others. God does send the hand to write on the wall in a language Belshazzar could not, nor could any

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of his officials read. The LORD set up this scenario situation in front of Belshazzar and his officials so that a man of God, Daniel, may be used for the glory of God. When Daniel was summoned to read the handwriting on the wall, God's purpose was to show righteousness and humility to the prideful king Belshazzar, and to show the king and his officials it is the ***“the Most High God is ruler over the kingdom of men and sets anyone He wants over it.”***

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**Verse 21** - *acknowledged that the Most High God is ruler over the kingdom of men and sets anyone He wants over it.*

**Verse 23** - *Instead, you have exalted yourself against the Lord of heaven. The vessels from His house were brought to you, and as you and your nobles, wives, and concubines drank wine from them, you praised the gods made of silver and gold, bronze, iron, wood, and stone, which do not see or hear or understand. But you have not glorified the God who holds your life-breath in His hand and who controls the whole course of your life.*

God spoke through Daniel of the predicted overthrow of Belshazzar's kingdom, which afterwards shown the other people what Daniel said was true and came about by the hand of the God Almighty.

We also see that God used Nebuchadnezzar's pride and defiance mentality to remind Belshazzar of his pride and self-absorption condition. Many years had passed since Nebuchadnezzar's dream until Belshazzar is viewing the handwriting on the wall. God used a situation from the past for the present day teaching and rebuke of Belshazzar.

When Belshazzar and his kingdom was justly destroyed by the LORD God Almighty, the people had seen and come to know that the One Most High God is faithful, and it is He, YAHWEH, had spoken and caused the destruction and downfall of Belshazzar and his kingdom.