

The End of an Empire

Chapter 5, Discovering Daniel, by Amir Tsarfati

1. What illustration and cliché does our esteemed author begin the chapter with? How does this illustration introduce the last day of the Babylonian Empire and Daniel 5?

A Royal Discovery

2. Has there ever been any archeological evidence that contradicts the Bible? The archeological evidence for the last king of the Babylonians, Belshazzar has been found many times since skeptics began claiming that the Bible just made him up. What “rule” does Amir give when it comes to Biblical archeology?

A Party Gets Out of Hand

3. In verse 1 of Daniel 5, "Belshazzar the king made a great feast for a thousand of his lords, and drank wine in the presence of the thousand" What was the first mistake that Belshazzar make in relation to the Most High God at his party in verses 2-4?

A Hand Gets into the Party

4. What occurs in the midst of the party according to Daniel 5:5?
5. The author takes notice of the Biblical use of the word, “suddenly” and demonstrates it’s use in Isaiah 48:3.

6. How is this word and its instantaneous change used Mark 13:32, 35-36?
7. What was Belshazzar's response in Daniel 5:6-9?
8. Who gives advice to help the hopeless king in verses 10-12?
9. By this time, Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego would have been known from a previous generation. What offer does Belshazzar offer to an older Daniel in verses 13-16?
10. Is Daniel impressed by the crown prince? Why is this? What does Daniel also know about the very near future?
11. What does Daniel tell the younger king in verses 22-23?
12. What was the inscription and interpretation that was written? See verses 24-28.
13. The word on the wall, "TEKEL: You have been weighed in the balances, and found wanting." Leads the author to another judgment in Revelation 20:11-12, 15. What is this judgment about and who is it for?

Lessons of Leadership Failure

14. The first lesson, *Stewardship Requires Faithfulness*. What was Belshazzar's failure in his stewardship?

15. What lesson of stewardship does Paul refer to in 1 Corinthians 4:2?
16. "A faithful steward is one who is "steady" in their stewardship or responsibilities." What example can you give of modern stewardship (or use the author's example)?
17. Another lesson is, *Faithfulness in a Few Things Results in More Opportunities to Honor God and Bless Others*. What example of this is given in Matthew 25:21, 23?
18. What promise does the author assert will be God's response to our faithfulness, "when we follow through and do His will to the best of our abilities"?