




The Writing is on the Wall

Daniel 5

Brandon Lauranzon, April 28 & 29, 2018

Step 1: Reflect on the Text

Why do we do this first? We always want to start with the Bible. The goal is to meditate on the Word and read it with an ear sensitive to the Holy Spirit's promptings. Look for words or phrases that stand out through logic, repetition, layout, etc.

-  Read the sermon scripture(s) listed above. What stood out to you? What do you find interesting and/or important? What is challenging or causes you to have questions?

Step 2: Reflect on the Sermon

INTRODUCTION

- 1 Can you recall a time in your life when you said or believed, "The writing is on the wall"?
- 2 What was your one main/big takeaway from the sermon? How would you summarize the main theme of the sermon in one phrase or sentence?
- 3 Discuss the following quote by G.K. Chesterton: "A dead thing can go with the stream, but only a living thing can go against it." How does the quote encapsulate God's command to the exiles in Babylon and to us?
- 4 What are some of the surprising elements of the plot line in Daniel chapter 5?
- 5 Belshazzar despised holy things because he despised God. Have you ever despised God? Have you ever despised his holy things? Define sin using Daniel chapter 5 and Romans 1:21,25.

- 6 Have you ever experienced the fear of God like Belshazzar?
- 7 Daniel, the Lord's prophet, had been put on the shelf in Belshazzar's day. Have you ever put God on the shelf for a season of your life?
- 8 In your own words, what did the writing on the wall (MENE, MENE, TEKEL, PARSIN) mean?
- 9 Compare and contrast Nebuchadnezzar and Belshazzar. What do you think made the difference between the two?
- 10 What is surprising or revealing about the final two verses of Daniel chapter 5? What did Brandon mean when he said, "God doesn't count to three"?
- 11 Compare and contrast Belshazzar and Jesus. How does Jesus change the writing that is on our wall?

Step 3: Final Reflections

- ✠ How has your understanding, appreciation, and love for Jesus and the gospel grown as a result of this study?
- ♥ In what areas of faith and practice are you feeling convicted by the Holy Spirit to act as a result of this study?