

A scroll with Hebrew text is unrolled against a dark red background with glowing particles. The scroll is held by wooden rollers on the left and right sides. The text on the scroll is in a golden-yellow color and is arranged in several lines. The main title is written in a large, bold, serif font, while the subtitle is in a smaller, all-caps, sans-serif font. The background is a deep red with a subtle texture and scattered glowing orange and yellow particles, creating a sense of depth and focus on the scroll.

DEFINING MOMENTS

THE BOOK OF DANIEL

DR. BRIAN BENNETT | LEAD PASTOR



SERMON NOTES
PATHWAYVB.COM/FYI

**PRIDE GOES BEFORE A FALL, BUT GOD IS
THERE FOR THOSE THAT CALL**

“KING NEBUCHADNEZZAR TO ALL PEOPLES, NATIONS, AND LANGUAGES, THAT DWELL IN ALL THE EARTH: PEACE BE MULTIPLIED TO YOU! 2 IT HAS SEEMED GOOD TO ME TO SHOW THE SIGNS AND WONDERS THAT THE MOST HIGH GOD HAS DONE FOR ME. 3 HOW GREAT ARE HIS SIGNS, HOW MIGHTY HIS WONDERS! HIS KINGDOM IS AN EVERLASTING KINGDOM, AND HIS DOMINION ENDURES FROM GENERATION TO GENERATION. 4 I, NEBUCHADNEZZAR, WAS AT EASE IN MY

[DANIEL 4:1-12 ESV]

HOUSE AND PROSPERING IN MY PALACE. 5 I SAW A DREAM THAT MADE ME AFRAID. AS I LAY IN BED THE FANCIES AND THE VISIONS OF MY HEAD ALARMED ME. 6 SO I MADE A DECREE THAT ALL THE WISE MEN OF BABYLON SHOULD BE BROUGHT BEFORE ME, THAT THEY MIGHT MAKE KNOWN TO ME THE INTERPRETATION OF THE DREAM. 7 THEN THE MAGICIANS, THE ENCHANTERS, THE CHALDEANS, AND THE ASTROLOGERS CAME IN, AND I TOLD THEM THE DREAM, BUT

[DANIEL 4:1-12 ESV]

**THEY COULD NOT MAKE KNOWN TO ME ITS INTERPRETATION.
8 AT LAST DANIEL CAME IN BEFORE ME—HE WHO WAS
NAMED BELTESHAZZAR AFTER THE NAME OF MY GOD, AND IN
WHOM IS THE SPIRIT OF THE HOLY GODS—AND I TOLD HIM
THE DREAM, SAYING, 9 “O BELTESHAZZAR, CHIEF OF THE
MAGICIANS, BECAUSE I KNOW THAT THE SPIRIT OF THE HOLY
GODS IS IN YOU AND THAT NO MYSTERY IS TOO DIFFICULT
FOR YOU, TELL ME THE VISIONS OF MY DREAM THAT I SAW**

[DANIEL 4:1-12 ESV]

**AND THEIR INTERPRETATION. 10 THE VISIONS OF MY HEAD
AS I LAY IN BED WERE THESE: I SAW, AND BEHOLD, A TREE IN
THE MIDST OF THE EARTH, AND ITS HEIGHT WAS GREAT.
11 THE TREE GREW AND BECAME STRONG, AND ITS TOP
REACHED TO HEAVEN, AND IT WAS VISIBLE TO THE END OF**

[DANIEL 4:1-12 ESV]

THE WHOLE EARTH. 12 ITS LEAVES WERE BEAUTIFUL AND ITS FRUIT ABUNDANT, AND IN IT WAS FOOD FOR ALL. THE BEASTS OF THE FIELD FOUND SHADE UNDER IT, AND THE BIRDS OF THE HEAVENS LIVED IN ITS BRANCHES, AND ALL FLESH WAS FED FROM IT. “

[DANIEL 4:1-12 ESV]

**WHEN GOD SETS OUR STANDARD, WE WILL
KNOW WHEN TO STAND.**

[DANIEL 4:1-12 ESV]

**“IT MATTERS NOT HOW STRAIGHT THE GATE.
HOW CHARGED WITH PUNISHMENTS THE
SCROLL, I AM THE MASTER OF MY FATE, I AM
THE CAPTAIN OF MY SOUL.”**

- WILLIAM HENLEY, INVICTUS

“34 AT THE END OF THE DAYS I, NEBUCHADNEZZAR, LIFTED MY EYES TO HEAVEN, AND MY REASON RETURNED TO ME, AND I BLESSED THE MOST HIGH, AND PRAISED AND HONORED HIM WHO LIVES FOREVER, FOR HIS DOMINION IS AN EVERLASTING DOMINION, AND HIS KINGDOM ENDURES FROM GENERATION TO GENERATION; 35 ALL THE INHABITANTS OF THE EARTH ARE ACCOUNTED AS NOTHING, AND HE DOES ACCORDING TO HIS WILL AMONG THE HOST OF

[DANIEL 4:34-37 ESV]

HEAVEN AND AMONG THE INHABITANTS OF THE EARTH; AND NONE CAN STAY HIS HAND OR SAY TO HIM, “WHAT HAVE YOU DONE?” 36 AT THE SAME TIME MY REASON RETURNED TO ME, AND FOR THE GLORY OF MY KINGDOM, MY MAJESTY AND SPLENDOR RETURNED TO ME. MY COUNSELORS AND MY LORDS SOUGHT ME, AND I WAS ESTABLISHED IN MY KINGDOM, AND STILL MORE GREATNESS WAS ADDED TO ME.

[DANIEL 4:34-37 ESV]

37 NOW I, NEBUCHADNEZZAR, PRAISE AND EXTOL AND HONOR THE KING OF HEAVEN, FOR ALL HIS WORKS ARE RIGHT AND HIS WAYS ARE JUST; AND THOSE WHO WALK IN PRIDE HE IS ABLE TO HUMBLE. “

[DANIEL 4:34-37 ESV]

**PRIDE PRECEDES OUR FALL, BUT GOD
INTERCEDES WHEN WE CALL.**

[DANIEL 4:34-37; JAMES 4:6-10 ESV]

**“6 BUT HE GIVES MORE GRACE. THEREFORE IT SAYS, “GOD OPPOSES THE PROUD BUT GIVES GRACE TO THE HUMBLE.”
7 SUBMIT YOURSELVES THEREFORE TO GOD. RESIST THE DEVIL, AND HE WILL FLEE FROM YOU. 8 DRAW NEAR TO GOD, AND HE WILL DRAW NEAR TO YOU. CLEANSE YOUR HANDS, YOU SINNERS, AND PURIFY YOUR HEARTS, YOU DOUBLE-MINDED. 9 BE WRETCHED AND MOURN AND WEEP. LET YOUR LAUGHTER BE TURNED TO MOURNING AND YOUR JOY TO GLOOM. 10 HUMBLE YOURSELVES BEFORE THE LORD, AND HE WILL EXALT YOU.”**

[JAMES 4:6-10 ESV]

**“THERE ARE ONLY TWO KINDS OF PEOPLE IN
THE END: THOSE WHO SAY TO GOD, “THY WILL
BE DONE,” AND THOSE TO WHOM GOD SAYS, IN
THE END, “THY WILL BE DONE.”**

- C.S. LEWIS

“KING BELSHAZZAR MADE A GREAT FEAST FOR A THOUSAND OF HIS LORDS AND DRANK WINE IN FRONT OF THE THOUSAND. 2 BELSHAZZAR, WHEN HE TASTED THE WINE, COMMANDED THAT THE VESSELS OF GOLD AND OF SILVER THAT NEBUCHADNEZZAR HIS FATHER HAD TAKEN OUT OF THE TEMPLE IN JERUSALEM BE BROUGHT, THAT THE KING AND HIS LORDS, HIS WIVES, AND HIS CONCUBINES MIGHT DRINK FROM THEM. 3 THEN THEY BROUGHT IN THE GOLDEN

[DANIEL 5:1-9 ESV]

VESSELS THAT HAD BEEN TAKEN OUT OF THE TEMPLE, THE HOUSE OF GOD IN JERUSALEM, AND THE KING AND HIS LORDS, HIS WIVES, AND HIS CONCUBINES DRANK FROM THEM. 4 THEY DRANK WINE AND PRAISED THE GODS OF GOLD AND SILVER, BRONZE, IRON, WOOD, AND STONE. 5 IMMEDIATELY THE FINGERS OF A HUMAN HAND APPEARED AND WROTE ON THE PLASTER OF THE WALL OF THE KING'S PALACE, OPPOSITE THE LAMPSTAND. AND THE KING SAW

[DANIEL 5:1-9 ESV]

**THE HAND AS IT WROTE. 6 THEN THE KING'S COLOR
CHANGED, AND HIS THOUGHTS ALARMED HIM; HIS LIMBS
GAVE WAY, AND HIS KNEES KNOCKED TOGETHER. 7 THE KING
CALLED LOUDLY TO BRING IN THE ENCHANTERS, THE
CHALDEANS, AND THE ASTROLOGERS. THE KING DECLARED
TO THE WISE MEN OF BABYLON, "WHOEVER READS THIS
WRITING, AND SHOWS ME ITS INTERPRETATION, SHALL BE
CLOTHED WITH PURPLE AND HAVE A CHAIN OF GOLD**

[DANIEL 5:1-9 ESV]

AROUND HIS NECK AND SHALL BE THE THIRD RULER IN THE KINGDOM.” 8 THEN ALL THE KING’S WISE MEN CAME IN, BUT THEY COULD NOT READ THE WRITING OR MAKE KNOWN TO THE KING THE INTERPRETATION. 9 THEN KING BELSHAZZAR WAS GREATLY ALARMED, AND HIS COLOR CHANGED, AND HIS LORDS WERE PERPLEXED.

[DANIEL 5:1-9 ESV]

**PRIDE BINDS US TO OUR WORK AND BLINDS
US TO GOD'S WORK.**

[DANIEL 5:1-9 ESV]

**“PRIDE WAS THE FIRST SIN IN GOD’S
CREATION, AND SINCE THAT BEGINNING,
PRIDE HAS BEEN AT WORK IN THE HEARTS OF
HUMANITY TO CAUSE US TO FORGET GOD”**

- STEPHEN ARMSTRONG

“13 THEN DANIEL WAS BROUGHT IN BEFORE THE KING. THE KING ANSWERED AND SAID TO DANIEL, “YOU ARE THAT DANIEL, ONE OF THE EXILES OF JUDAH, WHOM THE KING MY FATHER BROUGHT FROM JUDAH. 14 I HAVE HEARD OF YOU THAT THE SPIRIT OF THE GODS IS IN YOU, AND THAT LIGHT AND UNDERSTANDING AND EXCELLENT WISDOM ARE FOUND IN YOU. 15 NOW THE WISE MEN, THE ENCHANTERS, HAVE BEEN BROUGHT IN BEFORE ME TO READ THIS WRITING AND

[DANIEL 5:13-23 ESV]

MAKE KNOWN TO ME ITS INTERPRETATION, BUT THEY COULD NOT SHOW THE INTERPRETATION OF THE MATTER. 16 BUT I HAVE HEARD THAT YOU CAN GIVE INTERPRETATIONS AND SOLVE PROBLEMS. NOW IF YOU CAN READ THE WRITING AND MAKE KNOWN TO ME ITS INTERPRETATION, YOU SHALL BE CLOTHED WITH PURPLE AND HAVE A CHAIN OF GOLD AROUND YOUR NECK AND SHALL BE THE THIRD RULER IN THE KINGDOM.” 17 THEN DANIEL ANSWERED AND SAID

[DANIEL 5:13-23 ESV]

BEFORE THE KING, "LET YOUR GIFTS BE FOR YOURSELF, AND GIVE YOUR REWARDS TO ANOTHER. NEVERTHELESS, I WILL READ THE WRITING TO THE KING AND MAKE KNOWN TO HIM THE INTERPRETATION. 18 O KING, THE MOST HIGH GOD GAVE NEBUCHADNEZZAR YOUR FATHER KINGSHIP AND GREATNESS AND GLORY AND MAJESTY. 19 AND BECAUSE OF THE GREATNESS THAT HE GAVE HIM, ALL PEOPLES, NATIONS, AND LANGUAGES TREMBLED AND FEARED BEFORE HIM. WHOM HE

[DANIEL 5:13-23 ESV]

**WOULD, HE KILLED, AND WHOM HE WOULD, HE KEPT ALIVE;
WHOM HE WOULD, HE RAISED UP, AND WHOM HE WOULD, HE
HUMBLED. 20 BUT WHEN HIS HEART WAS LIFTED UP AND HIS
SPIRIT WAS HARDENED SO THAT HE DEALT PROUDLY, HE
WAS BROUGHT DOWN FROM HIS KINGLY THRONE, AND HIS
GLORY WAS TAKEN FROM HIM. 21 HE WAS DRIVEN FROM
AMONG THE CHILDREN OF MANKIND, AND HIS MIND WAS
MADE LIKE THAT OF A BEAST, AND HIS DWELLING WAS WITH**

[DANIEL 5:13-23 ESV]

THE WILD DONKEYS. HE WAS FED GRASS LIKE AN OX, AND HIS BODY WAS WET WITH THE DEW OF HEAVEN, UNTIL HE KNEW THAT THE MOST HIGH GOD RULES THE KINGDOM OF MANKIND AND SETS OVER IT WHOM HE WILL. 22 AND YOU HIS SON, BELSHAZZAR, HAVE NOT HUMBLLED YOUR HEART, THOUGH YOU KNEW ALL THIS, 23 BUT YOU HAVE LIFTED UP YOURSELF AGAINST THE LORD OF HEAVEN. AND THE VESSELS OF HIS HOUSE HAVE BEEN BROUGHT IN BEFORE YOU, AND

[DANIEL 5:13-23 ESV]

YOU AND YOUR LORDS, YOUR WIVES, AND YOUR CONCUBINES HAVE DRUNK WINE FROM THEM. AND YOU HAVE PRAISED THE GODS OF SILVER AND GOLD, OF BRONZE, IRON, WOOD, AND STONE, WHICH DO NOT SEE OR HEAR OR KNOW, BUT THE GOD IN WHOSE HAND IS YOUR BREATH, AND WHOSE ARE ALL YOUR WAYS, YOU HAVE NOT HONORED.”

[DANIEL 5:13-23 ESV]

**WALLS WILL FALL AS WE LET JESUS
RE-WRITE OUR STORIES.**

[DANIEL 5:13-23; EPHESIANS 2:13-14 ESV]

THREE CHARGES AGAINST THE KING

- **PRIDE (V.22)**
- **DEFIANCE (V.23)**
- **IDOLATRY (V.23)**

**“13 BUT NOW IN CHRIST JESUS YOU WHO ONCE WERE FAR
OFF HAVE BEEN BROUGHT NEAR BY THE BLOOD OF CHRIST.
14 FOR HE HIMSELF IS OUR PEACE, WHO HAS MADE US BOTH
ONE AND HAS BROKEN DOWN IN HIS FLESH THE DIVIDING
WALL OF HOSTILITY”**

[EPHESIANS 2:13-14 ESV]

24 'THEN FROM HIS PRESENCE THE HAND WAS SENT, AND THIS WRITING WAS INSCRIBED. 25 AND THIS IS THE WRITING THAT WAS INSCRIBED: MENE, MENE, TEKEL, AND PARSIN. 26 THIS IS THE INTERPRETATION OF THE MATTER: MENE, GOD HAS NUMBERED THE DAYS OF YOUR KINGDOM AND BROUGHT IT TO AN END; 27 TEKEL, YOU HAVE BEEN WEIGHED IN THE BALANCES AND FOUND WANTING; 28 PERES, YOUR KINGDOM IS DIVIDED AND GIVEN TO THE MEDES AND

[DANIEL 5:24-31 ESV]

PERSIANS.’ 29 THEN BELSHAZZAR GAVE THE COMMAND, AND DANIEL WAS CLOTHED WITH PURPLE, A CHAIN OF GOLD WAS PUT AROUND HIS NECK, AND A PROCLAMATION WAS MADE ABOUT HIM, THAT HE SHOULD BE THE THIRD RULER IN THE KINGDOM. 30 THAT VERY NIGHT BELSHAZZAR THE CHALDEAN KING WAS KILLED. 31 AND DARIUS THE MEDE RECEIVED THE KINGDOM, BEING ABOUT SIXTY-TWO YEARS OLD.”

[DANIEL 5:24-31 ESV]

**THE ANTIDOTE FOR PRIDE IS FOUND AT THE
FOOT OF THE CROSS.**

[DANIEL 5:24-31; PHILIPPIANS 2:8-11 ESV]

**8 AND BEING FOUND IN HUMAN FORM, HE HUMBLLED
HIMSELF BY BECOMING OBEDIENT TO THE POINT OF DEATH,
EVEN DEATH ON A CROSS. 9 THEREFORE GOD HAS HIGHLY
EXALTED HIM AND BESTOWED ON HIM THE NAME THAT IS
ABOVE EVERY NAME, 10 SO THAT AT THE NAME OF JESUS
EVERY KNEE SHOULD BOW, IN HEAVEN AND ON EARTH AND
UNDER THE EARTH, 11 AND EVERY TONGUE CONFESS THAT
JESUS CHRIST IS LORD, TO THE GLORY OF GOD THE FATHER.**

[PHILIPPIANS 2:8-11 ESV]

NEXT STEP QUESTIONS:

**1. WILL YOU RECOGNIZE THE HANDWRITING ON
THE WALL AND TURN TO GOD?**

NEXT STEP QUESTIONS:

**2. WILL YOU TURNOVER _____ TO JESUS
AND LET HIM RE-WRITE YOUR STORY?**

A scroll with Hebrew text is unrolled against a dark wooden background. The scroll is held by wooden rollers on the left and right. The text on the scroll is in Hebrew characters. The background is dark with small, glowing orange and red particles scattered throughout.

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