

Sermon Text Discussion Notes 10/4/2020

“Pride Before the Fall and the Writing on the Wall” by Drew Hunter from Daniel 5

Overview

As we continue to move through the book of Daniel, we see yet more examples to encourage us as we seek to thrive as exiles in difficult times. Daniel chapter 5 reminds us that God is in charge of the leaders and nations of this world. He is sovereign over everything and everyone. This chapter unfolds over the course of three scenes:

- 1) The king's feast
- 2) Daniel speech
- 3) The writing on the wall

Quotes

“Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.” But God said to him, ‘Fool! This night your soul is required of you, and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?’ So is the one who lays up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God.” (Luke 12:19-21).

Understanding & Application

- 1) Explain where we get the phrase “the writing on the wall.”
- 2) What is the possible discrepancy some historical sources might have with Daniel chapter 5? What is one way this can be explained?
- 3) What is particularly prideful about Belshazzar's actions in light of his relationship to Nebuchadnezzar?
- 4) How does Daniel chapter 5 tie to the story of the rich man in Luke chapter 12?
- 5) What enables Daniel to show such poise when he speaks to Belshazzar?
- 6) We are called not merely to endure as exiles but to thrive. What is your honest assessment of how you are doing? What changes, if any, need to be made so that you can thrive?