

# “The Handwriting on the Wall”

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Sunday, June 5, 2022, 10:30 a.m.  
Whitneyville Bible Church, Alto, MI  
Pastor Jonathan DeCou  
*Daniel 5:1-31*

**BIG IDEA:** True to His Word, God judges blasphemous sacrilege.

*“You have exalted yourself against the Lord of the heavens...  
you have not glorified the God who holds your life-breath in His hand  
and who controls the whole course of your life.  
Therefore, He sent the hand, and this writing was inscribed”  
Daniel 5:23-24 (CSB)*

☞ **Belshazzar’s DRUNKEN FEAST.** (v 1-4)

☞ **God’s UNUSUAL INTERRUPTION.** (v 5-9)

☞ **The Queen’s TIMELY ADVICE.** (v 10-12)

☞ **Daniel’s BLUNT REBUKE.** (v 13-29)

☞ **Babylon’s PREDICTED DEMISE.** (v 30-31)

☞ **LESSONS (So, what am I going to do about it?):**

- **GOD will not be MOCKED.**

- **Be sure to LEARN the right LESSONS from the PAST.**
- **Only God can provide UNDERSTANDING and MEANING about what MATTERS MOST in LIFE.**
- **Stay far AWAY from BABYLON.**
- **Live in LIGHT of God’s sure WORD of PROPHECY.**
- **QUESTION: What WORD of WARNING would God WRITE on the WALL of your LIFE right now?**

**BIG IDEA:** True to His Word, God judges blasphemous sacrilege.

**Read:** Daniel 5:1-31

**Think:** Consider how God crashes Belshazzar’s party, then ask yourself the following questions: *When was there a time you instantly went from festive celebration to sober seriousness? What caused the change in mood? Why do you suppose Belshazzar is throwing a party when the Medes & Persians are laying siege to the city of Babylon? What was Belshazzar’s tragic sin in this circumstance and why was it worse than that of Nebuchadnezzar’s? What does Belshazzar’s reaction to the mysterious handwriting on the wall reveal about him? What do you make of the Queen Mother’s advice? Why does Daniel reject flattery and reward for his part in the story? What does the handwriting mean and what do you make of God’s “last minute timing” here? Why did God write a riddle?*

**Do:** Identify some contemporary examples of individuals who mock God by demeaning sacred things. How does it seem God is quick, or slow, to judge such sacrilegious behavior? How will you learn from the past and not fail to acknowledge God?