



Series: Daniel, Living for God in a Pagan World

Passage: Daniel 5 – Isaiah 44:24-45-6

Title: When Judgement Comes

Speaker: Pastor David Menard, 08/4/2024

Discussion Starter –How has this sermon in Daniel 5 – “When Judgement Comes” caused you to reflect on your own walk with God? What are some of the things you need to get right before God and how are you doing in the area of redeeming the time you have before He returns or takes you home?

Read Daniel 5:1-4

- 1) How many years do you think have passed since the end of Daniel Chapter 4 to the beginning of Chapter 5? Why might this be important as it applies to king Belshazzar?
- 2) Why have many critics of the Bible profess that the Book of Daniel is in error as it claims Belshazzar as king in chapter 5 verse 1? What historical evidence do we now have that confirms that Belshazzar was appointed king by his father?
- 3) Chapter 4 ends with the restoration of king Nebuchadnezzar in humility before God. What common thing can happen to a nation that has experiences such prosperity like Babylon, and is demonstrated by the actions of Belshazzar? What seems to be lacking in his character? How similar are these actions to what we have seen in our own nation?
- 4) Why do you think king Belshazzar wanted to have everybody drink out of the articles of the Jewish temple?
 - a) We see in this passage the progression of how a small sin can spiral out of control. What experiences have you had in your life that started out with a small sin and then got out of control?

Read Daniel 5:5-12

- 5) Describe in your own words how king Belshazzar reacts to the hand that writes a message on the wall? What does he do to try to get control of the situation?
- 6) Who is this queen, how is the term father to be understood here, and what insights and wisdom does she offer to king Belshazzar?

Read Daniel 5:13-30

- 7) What are the things that king Belshazzar offers Daniel if he can interpret the handwriting on the wall? How does Daniel respond to his offer?
- 8) What example did Daniel give king Belshazzar to show him why he had a problem with God and would have to face His judgement?
- 9) Once Daniel interprets the handwriting on the wall, how does king Belshazzar respond, and what was the problem with his response?
- 10) Read Isaiah 44:24-45-6. What additional insights about this event in Daniel are prophesied in this passage?
 - b) When we look at God’s sovereign power to foretell the future and even name the rulers before they are born, how has that strengthened your faith to trust in His Word and plan for your life? What is He calling you to do for His kingdom?