

The Three “R’s” of a Godly Education

Daniel 5

"Yet you, his son, Belshazzar, have not humbled your heart, even though you knew all this..."

Daniel 5:22

Introduction

- **Matthew Henry:** *We have here Belshazzar the king very gay, but all of a sudden very gloomy, and in straits in the fullness of his sufficiency. See how he affronts God, and God affrights him; and wait what will be the issue of this contest; and whether he that hardened his heart against God prospered.*
- **John MacArthur:** *"I believe all civilizations follow [the pattern of Babylon]: they rise to great heights, become filled with pride, are characterized by self-indulgence and materialism, and begin to descend into debauchery until they are destroyed. Psalm 9:17 says, "The wicked shall be turned into sheol, and all the nations that forget God." When a nation forgets God, its doom is certain. What were the devastating sins that caused Babylon to fall? Some of them are paralleled in America today."*

Proposition: *Knowing the truth and rejecting it is the worst of sins. God's handwriting is on the walls of our hearts, "our consciences bearing witness and our thoughts alternately accusing or else defending us..." (Romans 2). The lesson has been taught, the truth is for all to see. Will it be a lesson learned or a lesson not learned?*

I. _____ of the Unconcerned (Daniel 5:1-4, Romans 1:21-22)

Four Characteristics of Unconcerned Revelry:

A. _____

B. _____

C. _____

D. _____

II. _____ from the Sovereign God

(Dan 5:5, Rom 1:18, Zephaniah 1:15, Heb 10:31)

A. For the _____ of God is revealed

B. God is patient—but He is not _____

III. _____ of a Terrified King (Dan 5:7-9)

A. A _____ attempt for knowledge

B. “My kingdom for a _____!”

IV. _____ of a Queen (Dan 5:10)

A. _____ of an answer

B. _____ knowledge of the true God

V. _____ of Daniel (Dan 5:13, Romans 1:19, Proverbs 1:7, 1 Kings 12:6)

A. Belshazzar is without _____

B. Fools _____ wisdom and instruction

VI. _____ the Three “R’s” of a Godly Education

Daniel’s Sermon (Dan 5:17-30)

Theme of the Sermon: “*But the God in whose hand are your life-breath and your ways, you have not glorified.*”

A. _____ (Acts 17:24)

B. _____ (1 Chronicles 16:28, Psalm 22:23, 1 Corinthians 6:20)

C. _____ (2 Corinthians 5:10, Romans 6:23, 2 Thessalonians 1:7)

Application

- **Reliance:** Do you rely exclusively on the finished work of Christ for your salvation or your own efforts?
- **Responsibility:** Have you genuinely repented of your sins and seek to serve the Lord in obedience to His commandments?
- **Recompense:** Do you look forward to “*standing in the presence of His glory blameless with great joy*” (because of what Christ did on your behalf?)

The conclusion, when all has been heard, is: fear God and keep His commandments, because this applies to every person. ¹⁴ For God will bring every act to judgment, everything which is hidden, whether it is good or evil.

Ecclesiastes 12:13