

Failing to Watch and Pray

Daniel 5

Introduction: “Keep watching and praying that you may not enter into temptation; the spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak.” Matthew 26:41

A. A Dishonorable Party. 5:1-4

1. The great feast. 1
2. The blasphemous use of temple vessels. 2-4
3. The Babylonians did not pray to God!

B. The Handwriting on the Wall. 5:5-6

1. The hand appears. 5
2. The king’s alarm. 6

C. The Inability of the King’s Wise Men to Explain. 5:7-9

1. The king’s request. 7
2. The king’s reward.
3. The inability of the wise men. 8
4. The growing alarm of the king. 9

D. The Queen Mother Recommends Daniel. 5:10-12

1. Her entrance. 10
2. Her greeting.
3. Her description of Daniel. 11-12a
4. Her recommendation. 12b

E. The King’s Request of Daniel. 5:13-16

1. Daniel enters. 13
2. The king’s question.
3. The king’s summary. 14

4. The king’s admission. 15
5. The king’s appeal to Daniel. 16

F. Daniel Explains the Apparition. 17-29

1. Daniel’s disinterest. 17
2. Daniel’s willingness
3. God granted rule to Nebuchadnezzar. 18
4. Nebuchadnezzar’s power. 19
5. Nebuchadnezzar’s pride. 20
6. Nebuchadnezzar’s humiliation. 20-21
7. Nebuchadnezzar’s reprieve. 21
8. Belshazzar’s arrogance. 22-23
9. The hand from God. 24
10. The inscription. 25-28
 - a. MENE – Numbered (and terminated)
 - b. TEKEL – Weighed (and deficient)
 - c. PERES – Divided (and given to Medes and Persians)
11. The meaningless promotion of Daniel. 29

G. The Fulfillment of the Handwriting. 5:30-31

1. The execution of Belshazzar. 30
2. The kingdom to Darius the Mede. 31
3. The Babylonians did not WATCH.
4. Jesus said, “Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation.”
5. The Babylonians did NEITHER.
6. What will you do differently than the Babylonians to avoid entering into temptation? –

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