

Today's Message: "Engage and Influence"

*Now I, Nebuchadnezzar, praise and extol and honor the King of heaven, for all his works are right and his ways are just; and those who walk in pride he is able to humble.
(Daniel 4:37, ESV)*

*Belshazzar, when he tasted the wine, commanded that the vessels of gold and of silver that Nebuchadnezzar his father had taken out of the temple in Jerusalem be brought, that the king and his lords, his wives, and his concubines might drink from them. ³ Then they brought in the golden vessels that had been taken out of the temple, the house of God in Jerusalem, and the king and his lords, his wives, and his concubines drank from them. ⁴ They drank wine and praised the gods of gold and silver, bronze, iron, wood, and stone. ⁵ Immediately the fingers of a human hand appeared and wrote on the plaster of the wall of the king's palace, opposite the lampstand. And the king saw the hand as it wrote. ⁶ Then the king's color changed, and his thoughts alarmed him; his limbs gave way, and his knees knocked together. ⁷ The king called loudly to bring in the enchanters, the Chaldeans, and the astrologers.
(Daniel 5:2-7, ESV)*

- *Deuteronomy 18:10 - ... anyone who practices divination or tells fortunes or interprets omens, or a sorcerer or a charmer or a medium or a necromancer or one who inquires of the dead, for whoever does these things is an abomination to the Lord*
- *Leviticus 20:6 - If a person turns to mediums and necromancers, whoring after them, I will set my face against that person and will cut him off from among his people.*

But I have heard that you can give interpretations and solve problems. Now if you can read the writing and make known to me its interpretation, you shall be clothed with purple and have a chain of gold around your neck and shall be the third ruler in the kingdom." ¹⁷ Then Daniel answered and said before the king, "Let your gifts be for yourself, and give your rewards to another. Nevertheless, I will read the writing to the king and make known to him the interpretation. (Daniel 5:16 & 17, ESV)

"Engage and Influence: A Study of Daniel"

Pastor Scott Stevens

July 11 & 12, 2015

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Belshazzar, you have not humbled your heart, though you knew all this,²³ but you have lifted up yourself against the Lord of heaven. And the vessels of his house have been brought in before you, and you and your lords, your wives, and your concubines have drunk wine from them. And you have praised the gods of silver and gold, of bronze, iron, wood, and stone, which do not see or hear or know, but the God in whose hand is your breath, and whose are all your ways, you have not honored.²⁴ “Then from his presence the hand was sent, and this writing was inscribed.²⁵ And this is the writing that was inscribed: MENE, MENE, TEKEL, and PARSIN.²⁶ This is the interpretation of the matter: MENE, God has numbered the days of your kingdom and brought it to an end;²⁷ TEKEL, you have been weighed in the balances and found wanting;²⁸ PERES, your kingdom is divided and given to the Medes and Persians.”²⁹ Then Belshazzar gave the command, and Daniel was clothed with purple, a chain of gold was put around his neck, and a proclamation was made about him, that he should be the third ruler in the kingdom.³⁰ That very night Belshazzar the Chaldean king was killed.³¹ And Darius the Mede received the kingdom, being about sixty-two years old. (Daniel 5: 22-31, ESV)

[Mene] - “to count.”
[Tekel] - “to weigh.”
[Parsin] - “to divide.”

Swagger Checks!

Understand your weaknesses.

Remain curious my friend!

Acknowledge others.

Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful. 24 And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, 25 not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near. (Hebrews 10:23, ESV)

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