

## Daniel 5-7, 2 John 1(New King James Version)

### Daniel 5

#### Belshazzar's Feast

<sup>1</sup> Belshazzar the king made a great feast for a thousand of his lords, and drank wine in the presence of the thousand. <sup>2</sup> While he tasted the wine, Belshazzar gave the command to bring the gold and silver vessels which his father Nebuchadnezzar had taken from the temple which *had been* in Jerusalem, that the king and his lords, his wives, and his concubines might drink from them. <sup>3</sup> Then they brought the gold vessels that had been taken from the temple of the house of God which *had been* in Jerusalem; and the king and his lords, his wives, and his concubines drank from them. <sup>4</sup> They drank wine, and praised the gods of gold and silver, bronze and iron, wood and stone.

<sup>5</sup> In the same hour the fingers of a man's hand appeared and wrote opposite the lampstand on the plaster of the wall of the king's palace; and the king saw the part of the hand that wrote. <sup>6</sup> Then the king's countenance changed, and his thoughts troubled him, so that the joints of his hips were loosened and his knees knocked against each other. <sup>7</sup> The king cried aloud to bring in the astrologers, the Chaldeans, and the soothsayers. The king spoke, saying to the wise *men* of Babylon, "Whoever reads this writing, and tells me its interpretation, shall be clothed with purple and *have* a chain of gold around his neck; and he shall be the third ruler in the kingdom." <sup>8</sup> Now all the king's wise *men* came, but they could not read the writing, or make known to the king its interpretation. <sup>9</sup> Then King Belshazzar was greatly troubled, his countenance was changed, and his lords were astonished.

<sup>10</sup> The queen, because of the words of the king and his lords, came to the banquet hall. The queen spoke, saying, "O king, live forever! Do not let your thoughts trouble you, nor let your countenance change. <sup>11</sup> There is a man in your kingdom in whom *is* the Spirit of the Holy God. And in the days of your father, light and understanding and wisdom, like the wisdom of the gods, were found in him; and King Nebuchadnezzar your father—your father the king—made him chief of the magicians, astrologers, Chaldeans, *and* soothsayers. <sup>12</sup> Inasmuch as an excellent spirit, knowledge, understanding, interpreting dreams, solving riddles, and explaining enigmas<sup>[a]</sup> were found in this Daniel, whom the king named Belteshazzar, now let Daniel be called, and he will give the interpretation."

#### The Writing on the Wall Explained

<sup>13</sup> Then Daniel was brought in before the king. The king spoke, and said to Daniel, "*Are* you that Daniel who is one of the captives<sup>[b]</sup> from Judah, whom my father the king brought from Judah? <sup>14</sup> I have heard of you, that the Spirit of God *is* in you, and *that* light and understanding and excellent wisdom are found in you. <sup>15</sup> Now the wise *men*, the astrologers, have been brought in before me, that they should read this writing and make known to me its interpretation, but they could not give the interpretation of the thing. <sup>16</sup> And I have heard of you, that you can give interpretations and explain enigmas. 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."

<sup>17</sup> Then Daniel answered, and said before the king, “Let your gifts be for yourself, and give your rewards to another; yet I will read the writing to the king, and make known to him the interpretation. <sup>18</sup> O king, the Most High God gave Nebuchadnezzar your father a kingdom and majesty, glory and honor. <sup>19</sup> And because of the majesty that He gave him, all peoples, nations, and languages trembled and feared before him. Whomever he wished, he executed; whomever he wished, he kept alive; whomever he wished, he set up; and whomever he wished, he put down. <sup>20</sup> But when his heart was lifted up, and his spirit was hardened in pride, he was deposed from his kingly throne, and they took his glory from him. <sup>21</sup> Then he was driven from the sons of men, his heart was made like the beasts, and his dwelling *was* with the wild donkeys. They fed him with grass like oxen, and his body was wet with the dew of heaven, till he knew that the Most High God rules in the kingdom of men, and appoints over it whomever He chooses.

<sup>22</sup> “But you his son, Belshazzar, have not humbled your heart, although you knew all this. <sup>23</sup> And you have lifted yourself up against the Lord of heaven. They have brought the vessels of His house 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, bronze and iron, wood and stone, which do not see or hear or know; and the God who *holds* your breath in His hand and owns all your ways, you have not glorified. <sup>24</sup> Then the fingers<sup>[c]</sup> of the hand were sent from Him, and this writing was written.

<sup>25</sup> “And this is the inscription that was written:

MENE,<sup>[d]</sup> MENE, TEKEL,<sup>[e]</sup> UPHARSIN.<sup>[f]</sup>

<sup>26</sup> This *is* the interpretation of *each* word. MENE: God has numbered your kingdom, and finished it; <sup>27</sup> TEKEL: You have been weighed in the balances, and found wanting; <sup>28</sup> PERES: Your kingdom has been divided, and given to the Medes and Persians.”<sup>[g]</sup> <sup>29</sup> Then Belshazzar gave the command, and they clothed Daniel with purple and *put* a chain of gold around his neck, and made a proclamation concerning him that he should be the third ruler in the kingdom.

### **Belshazzar’s Fall**

<sup>30</sup> That very night Belshazzar, king of the Chaldeans, was slain. <sup>31</sup> And Darius the Mede received the kingdom, *being* about sixty-two years old.

## **Daniel 6**

### **The Plot Against Daniel**

<sup>1</sup> It pleased Darius to set over the kingdom one hundred and twenty satraps, to be over the whole kingdom; <sup>2</sup> and over these, three governors, of whom Daniel *was* one, that the satraps might give account to them, so that the king would suffer no loss. <sup>3</sup> Then this Daniel distinguished himself above the governors and satraps, because an excellent spirit *was* in him; and the king gave thought to setting him over the whole realm. <sup>4</sup> So the governors and satraps sought to find *some* charge against Daniel concerning the kingdom; but they could find no charge or fault, because he *was* faithful; nor was there any error or fault found in him. <sup>5</sup> Then

these men said, “We shall not find any charge against this Daniel unless we find *it* against him concerning the law of his God.”

<sup>6</sup> So these governors and satraps thronged before the king, and said thus to him: “King Darius, live forever! <sup>7</sup> All the governors of the kingdom, the administrators and satraps, the counselors and advisors, have consulted together to establish a royal statute and to make a firm decree, that whoever petitions any god or man for thirty days, except you, O king, shall be cast into the den of lions. <sup>8</sup> Now, O king, establish the decree and sign the writing, so that it cannot be changed, according to the law of the Medes and Persians, which does not alter.” <sup>9</sup> Therefore King Darius signed the written decree.

### **Daniel in the Lions’ Den**

<sup>10</sup> Now when Daniel knew that the writing was signed, he went home. And in his upper room, with his windows open toward Jerusalem, he knelt down on his knees three times that day, and prayed and gave thanks before his God, as was his custom since early days.

<sup>11</sup> Then these men assembled and found Daniel praying and making supplication before his God. <sup>12</sup> And they went before the king, and spoke concerning the king’s decree: “Have you not signed a decree that every man who petitions any god or man within thirty days, except you, O king, shall be cast into the den of lions?”

The king answered and said, “The thing *is* true, according to the law of the Medes and Persians, which does not alter.”

<sup>13</sup> So they answered and said before the king, “That Daniel, who is one of the captives<sup>[h]</sup> from Judah, does not show due regard for you, O king, or for the decree that you have signed, but makes his petition three times a day.”

<sup>14</sup> And the king, when he heard *these* words, was greatly displeased with himself, and set *his* heart on Daniel to deliver him; and he labored till the going down of the sun to deliver him. <sup>15</sup> Then these men approached the king, and said to the king, “Know, O king, that *it is* the law of the Medes and Persians that no decree or statute which the king establishes may be changed.”

<sup>16</sup> So the king gave the command, and they brought Daniel and cast *him* into the den of lions. *But* the king spoke, saying to Daniel, “Your God, whom you serve continually, He will deliver you.” <sup>17</sup> Then a stone was brought and laid on the mouth of the den, and the king sealed it with his own signet ring and with the signets of his lords, that the purpose concerning Daniel might not be changed.

### **Daniel Saved from the Lions**

<sup>18</sup> Now the king went to his palace and spent the night fasting; and no musicians<sup>[i]</sup> were brought before him. Also his sleep went from him. <sup>19</sup> Then the king arose very early in the morning and went in haste to the den of lions. <sup>20</sup> And when he came to the den, he cried out with a lamenting voice to Daniel. The king spoke, saying to Daniel, “Daniel, servant of the living God, has your God, whom you serve continually, been able to deliver you from the lions?”

<sup>21</sup> Then Daniel said to the king, “O king, live forever! <sup>22</sup> My God sent His angel and shut the lions’ mouths, so that they have not hurt me, because I was found innocent before Him; and also, O king, I have done no wrong before you.”

<sup>23</sup> Now the king was exceedingly glad for him, and commanded that they should take Daniel up out of the den. So Daniel was taken up out of the den, and no injury whatever was found on him, because he believed in his God.

### **Darius Honors God**

<sup>24</sup> And the king gave the command, and they brought those men who had accused Daniel, and they cast *them* into the den of lions—they, their children, and their wives; and the lions overpowered them, and broke all their bones in pieces before they ever came to the bottom of the den.

<sup>25</sup> Then King Darius wrote:

To all peoples, nations, and languages that dwell in all the earth:

Peace be multiplied to you.

<sup>26</sup> I make a decree that in every dominion of my kingdom *men must* tremble and fear before the God of Daniel.

For He *is* the living God,  
And steadfast forever;  
His kingdom *is the one* which shall not be destroyed,  
And His dominion *shall endure* to the end.

<sup>27</sup> He delivers and rescues,  
And He works signs and wonders  
In heaven and on earth,  
Who has delivered Daniel from the power of the lions.

<sup>28</sup> So this Daniel prospered in the reign of Darius and in the reign of Cyrus the Persian.

## **Daniel 7**

### **Vision of the Four Beasts**

<sup>1</sup> In the first year of Belshazzar king of Babylon, Daniel had a dream and visions of his head *while* on his bed. Then he wrote down the dream, telling the main facts. <sup>[1]</sup>

<sup>2</sup> Daniel spoke, saying, “I saw in my vision by night, and behold, the four winds of heaven were stirring up the Great Sea. <sup>3</sup> And four great beasts came up from the sea, each different from the other. <sup>4</sup> The first *was* like a lion, and had eagle’s wings. I watched till its wings were plucked off; and it was lifted up from the earth and made to stand on two feet like a man, and a man’s heart was given to it.

<sup>5</sup> “And suddenly another beast, a second, like a bear. It was raised up on one side, and *had* three ribs in its mouth between its teeth. And they said thus to it: ‘Arise, devour much flesh!’

<sup>6</sup> “After this I looked, and there was another, like a leopard, which had on its back four wings of a bird. The beast also had four heads, and dominion was given to it.

<sup>7</sup> “After this I saw in the night visions, and behold, a fourth beast, dreadful and terrible, exceedingly strong. It had huge iron teeth; it was devouring, breaking in pieces, and trampling the residue with its feet. It *was* different from all the beasts that *were* before it, and it had ten horns. <sup>8</sup> I was considering the horns, and there was another horn, a little one, coming up among them, before whom three of the first horns were plucked out by the roots. And there, in this horn, *were* eyes like the eyes of a man, and a mouth speaking pompous words.

### **Vision of the Ancient of Days**

<sup>9</sup> “I watched till thrones were put in place,  
And the Ancient of Days was seated;  
His garment *was* white as snow,  
And the hair of His head *was* like pure wool.  
His throne *was* a fiery flame,  
Its wheels a burning fire;  
<sup>10</sup> A fiery stream issued  
And came forth from before Him.  
A thousand thousands ministered to Him;  
Ten thousand times ten thousand stood before Him.  
The court<sup>[k]</sup> was seated,  
And the books were opened.

<sup>11</sup> “I watched then because of the sound of the pompous words which the horn was speaking; I watched till the beast was slain, and its body destroyed and given to the burning flame. <sup>12</sup> As for the rest of the beasts, they had their dominion taken away, yet their lives were prolonged for a season and a time.

<sup>13</sup> “I was watching in the night visions,  
And behold, *One* like the Son of Man,  
Coming with the clouds of heaven!  
He came to the Ancient of Days,  
And they brought Him near before Him.  
<sup>14</sup> Then to Him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom,  
That all peoples, nations, and languages should serve Him.  
His dominion *is* an everlasting dominion,  
Which shall not pass away,  
And His kingdom *the one*  
Which shall not be destroyed.

### **Daniel’s Visions Interpreted**

<sup>15</sup> “I, Daniel, was grieved in my spirit within *my* body, and the visions of my head troubled me. <sup>16</sup> I came near to one of those who stood by, and asked him the truth of all this. So he told me and made known to me the interpretation of these things: <sup>17</sup> ‘Those great beasts, which are four, *are* four kings<sup>[1]</sup> *which* arise out of the earth. <sup>18</sup> But the saints of the Most High shall receive the kingdom, and possess the kingdom forever, even forever and ever.’

<sup>19</sup> “Then I wished to know the truth about the fourth beast, which was different from all the others, exceedingly dreadful, *with* its teeth of iron and its nails of bronze, *which* devoured, broke in pieces, and trampled the residue with its feet; <sup>20</sup> and the ten horns that *were* on its head, and the other *horn* which came up, before which three fell, namely, that horn which had eyes and a mouth which spoke pompous words, whose appearance *was* greater than his fellows.

<sup>21</sup> “I was watching; and the same horn was making war against the saints, and prevailing against them, <sup>22</sup> until the Ancient of Days came, and a judgment was made *in favor* of the saints of the Most High, and the time came for the saints to possess the kingdom.

<sup>23</sup> “Thus he said:

‘The fourth beast shall be  
A fourth kingdom on earth,  
Which shall be different from all *other* kingdoms,  
And shall devour the whole earth,  
Trample it and break it in pieces.

<sup>24</sup> The ten horns *are* ten kings  
*Who* shall arise from this kingdom.

And another shall rise after them;  
He shall be different from the first *ones*,  
And shall subdue three kings.

<sup>25</sup> He shall speak *pompous* words against the Most High,  
Shall persecute<sup>[m]</sup> the saints of the Most High,  
And shall intend to change times and law.  
Then *the saints* shall be given into his hand  
For a time and times and half a time.

<sup>26</sup> ‘But the court shall be seated,  
And they shall take away his dominion,  
To consume and destroy *it* forever.

<sup>27</sup> Then the kingdom and dominion,  
And the greatness of the kingdoms under the whole heaven,  
Shall be given to the people, the saints of the Most High.  
His kingdom *is* an everlasting kingdom,  
And all dominions shall serve and obey Him.’

<sup>28</sup> “This *is* the end of the account.<sup>[n]</sup> As for me, Daniel, my thoughts greatly troubled me, and my countenance changed; but I kept the matter in my heart.”

---

## 2 John 1

### Greeting the Elect Lady

<sup>1</sup> The Elder,

To the elect lady and her children, whom I love in truth, and not only I, but also all those who have known the truth, <sup>2</sup> because of the truth which abides in us and will be with us forever:

<sup>3</sup> Grace, mercy, *and* peace will be with you<sup>[a]</sup> from God the Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of the Father, in truth and love.

### Walk in Christ's Commandments

<sup>4</sup> I rejoiced greatly that I have found *some* of your children walking in truth, as we received commandment from the Father. <sup>5</sup> And now I plead with you, lady, not as though I wrote a new commandment to you, but that which we have had from the beginning: that we love one another. <sup>6</sup> This is love, that we walk according to His commandments. This is the commandment, that as you have heard from the beginning, you should walk in it.

### Beware of Antichrist Deceivers

<sup>7</sup> For many deceivers have gone out into the world who do not confess Jesus Christ *as* coming in the flesh. This is a deceiver and an antichrist. <sup>8</sup> Look to yourselves, that we<sup>[b]</sup> do not lose those things we worked for, but *that* we<sup>[c]</sup> may receive a full reward.

<sup>9</sup> Whoever transgresses<sup>[d]</sup> and does not abide in the doctrine of Christ does not have God. He who abides in the doctrine of Christ has both the Father and the Son. <sup>10</sup> If anyone comes to you and does not bring this doctrine, do not receive him into your house nor greet him; <sup>11</sup> for he who greets him shares in his evil deeds.

### John's Farewell Greeting

<sup>12</sup> Having many things to write to you, I did not wish *to do so* with paper and ink; but I hope to come to you and speak face to face, that our joy may be full.

<sup>13</sup> The children of your elect sister greet you. Amen.