

CARING HEART FELLOWSHIP (CHF)

Friday, 22nd October 2021

TOPIC: PEOPLE JUST LIKE US – THE LIFE OF DANIEL

THEME: A FINGER AT A FEAST (PART 2)

TEXT: EZEKIEL 14:14; DANIEL 5:1-30

INTRODUCTION

The Book of Daniel which record the life and ministry of the Prophet Daniel is a book in which God clearly demonstrates His sovereignty.

Apart from showing that He is the God who controls history, He also shows that He is the one who enthrones kings and dethrones them.

One such demonstration of God's sovereignty is what we are going to explore in today's study in Daniel chapter five about King Belshazzar. We continue from our study last week on "A Finger at a feast" and the lessons to learn from the life of Daniel, a man of like passion.

DISCUSSION

III. BELSHAZZAR GOT AN INTERPRETER WHO WAS FAITHFUL (Daniel 5:10-16)

1. The queen of King Belshazzar had nice things to say about Daniel. First, she said that Daniel had the Omnipotent God behind him in all that he did. (Vs.11a) "In your kingdom there is a man who has been given special powers by the holy gods." (see Genesis 41:38)

**Q: What does it mean to be an example of a believer? (1 Timothy 4:12)
How does it apply here?**

2. Secondly, she spoke of the special spiritual insight and vision given to Daniel by God. (Vs.11b) "...this man was known to be as smart, intelligent, and wise as the gods themselves."

3. (Daniel 4:8-9)

Q: What did Belshazzar see that made him say "I know that the "Spirit of the Holy God is in you"?"

4. Thirdly, she spoke of Daniel's promotion by King Nebuchadnezzar. (Vs.11c) "Your father put him in charge of all who claimed they could talk with the spirits or understand the meanings in the stars or tell about the future." (Daniel 1:17)

Q: How does Proverbs 18:16 apply to what happened to Daniel in the above text?

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5. She also spoke about the change of Daniel's name from "Daniel" (God is my judge) to Belshazzar (The Lord's leader) (Vs.12a). Belshazzar did not learn from the history of his great ancestor that it is the sovereign God who rules all the kingdoms of the world, and that pride goes before a fall. (Vs. 19b-20)
"Your father had the power of life and death over everyone ... But when he became proud and stubborn, his glorious kingdom was taken from him." (Romans 15:4).

Q: What does this text tell us about learning from life experience backed by examples in the word of God? (1 Corinthians 10:11 NLT)

6. She ended her testimony about Daniel on a positive note. (Vs.12b) "...he can explain dreams and riddles and solve difficult problems. Send for Daniel, and he will tell you what the writing means." (Proverbs 16:7 NLT)

Q: What can we do as believers today in the confines of our homes, schools, community and society in general that will be a testimony to non-believers?

7. This the king did and had Daniel brought in his presence. (Vs.13-16)

Q: What does it mean for a man's ways to please the Lord? (Proverbs 22:29)

CONCLUSION

Then Daniel was brought in before the king: When everything seems great – when the party is going non-stop – God and His servants are mocked, neglected, and hidden away.

But when the hand of heaven wrote a sobering message, panic-stricken cosmopolitans cried out for the one who had the Spirit of God.

The question for us to answer today would be to consider our current walk with Lord and ask if we could be used by Him when opportunities such as was presented to Daniel to interpret the writing on the wall presents itself where we live, work or in our community at large.

Daniel was a faithful Interpreter.