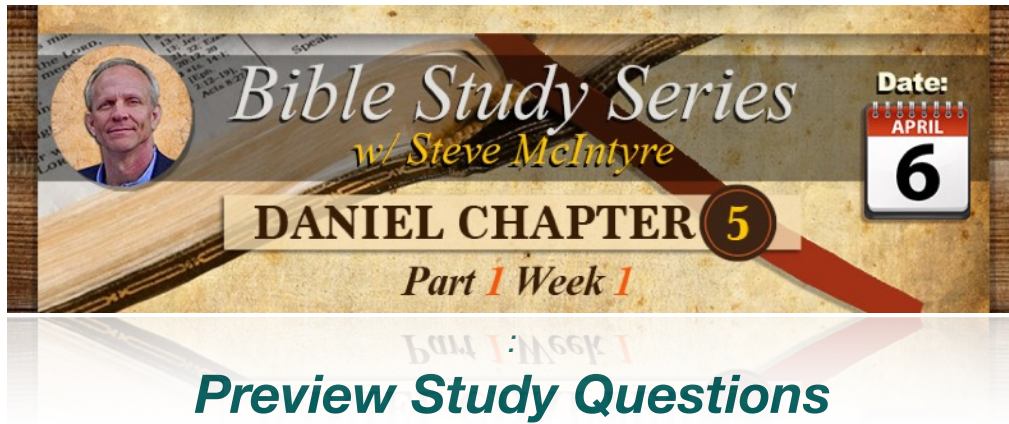


The Book of Daniel



1. Context and Character: Why was Belshazzar feasting and drinking from the stolen Jerusalem temple vessels while his city was under siege, and what does this reveal about his attitude toward God?
2. Pride and Accountability: According to Daniel 5:22, Belshazzar knew about God's dealings with his predecessor, Nebuchadnezzar, yet chose not to humble himself. What does this teach us about the danger of neglecting history and failing to learn from the humbling of others?
3. The Message and Judgment: Analyze the interpretation of the words Mene, Mene, Tekel, Upharsin (Daniel 5:25-28). What do these words convey about God's justice and the accountability of earthly powers?
4. Integrity in Power: Daniel refuses the king's rewards before interpreting the writing (Daniel 5:17). What does this reveal about Daniel's character, and how does this contrast with Belshazzar's focus on fame and indulgence?
5. Divine Intervention: Why do you think God chose this specific moment of open, drunken defiance to intervene with the handwriting on the wall rather than earlier, and what does this show about his patience and judgment?
6. Contemporary Application: In what ways can people today fall into the same "pride trap" as Belshazzar by ignoring God's sovereign nature, and how can we respect the "sacred" in our own lives?