

A LESSON IN ACCOUNTABILITY AND CONSEQUENCES

Daniel 5

Awareness

Before listening, reflect:

- Have you heard or used the phrase “the writing is on the wall”? What do you think this phrase means?
- Have you ever wished for a direct message or vision from God? Why or why not?

In Daniel 5, God’s servant, Daniel, once again interprets a message from God for a king of Babylon. Studying the story of King Belshazzar’s dinner party reminds us that our sins have consequences and that as God’s living temples we are accountable to honor and serve him with our lives. Join us as we explore how, with Christ as our firm foundation and by the power of the Holy Spirit, we can live for God’s glory today.

Listen: [*A Lesson in Accountability and Consequences*](#)

Reflection

After listening, consider:

- King Belshazzar and his guests offended God by using what belonged to God to feast and at the same time praise false gods. In what ways might we take something that belongs to God and, while using it, give praise to ourselves or others instead of to God?
- King Belshazzar witnessed God humbling his father Nebuchadnezzar (Daniel 4) and Daniel tells King Belshazzar that he has “forgotten” what he should have learned from that experience. Read Psalms 77 and 103. As you reflect on these Psalms about remembering what God has done, consider these questions: What came to your mind as you read? What role does remembering play in shaping and sustaining your faith? Why do you think God designed it this way?
- Wealth, power, pride, and arrogance brought about Belshazzar’s downfall. Which of these sinful dispositions do you struggle with the most? What steps might you take to combat this sin? How might the Holy Spirit impact your transformation?
- At the end of this episode, hosts Darrell Delaney and Scott Hoezee share that if we believe in God, then we can both see and be known by God. In what ways have you seen God’s “writing on the walls” in your life? How does God draw near to you?

Related Passages

- **Galatians 6:7-10**
- **Galatians 5:22-26**
- **1 Corinthians 3:10-15**
- **2 Corinthians 5:20**

- **Ephesians 2:8-9**
- **Psalm 139**

Conclusion

In segment 3, Darrell points out that having Christ as our firm foundation leads us to live out our faith with gratitude. Keep a gratitude journal this week. Record a list of things that you see, remember, or experience that you are grateful for. Consider how your gratitude might lead you to honor and serve God in your daily life. Add any Bible verses that come to mind this week so that you can revisit them when you are discouraged or forgetful. Take time each day to review your list and to offer your thanks to God in prayer.

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