

TOOLS 2KI 25:27 ¹ Now it came to pass in the thirty-seventh year of the captivity of Jehoiachin king of Judah, in the twelfth month, on the twenty-seventh day of the month, that Evil-Merodach king of Babylon, in the year that he began to reign, released Jehoiachin king of Judah from prison.

TOOLS 2KI 25:28 He spoke kindly to him, and gave him a more prominent seat than those of the kings who were with him in Babylon.

TOOLS 2KI 25:29 So Jehoiachin changed from his prison garments, and he ate bread regularly before the king all the days of his life.

TOOLS 2KI 25:30 And as for his provisions, there was a regular ration given him by the king, a portion for each day, all the days of his life.

2 Kings 25:27-30
&
Jeremiah 52:31-34

Nebuchadnezzar is no longer the king of Babylon.

Ancient historians list the last rulers of Babylon as:

- 1) **Nebuchadnezzar** (Died after a 43 year reign.)
- 2) **Evil-Merodach** (ruled for only two years when he was assassinated by his brother-in-law)
- 3) **Negrilissar** (ruled for 4 years until he died a natural death.)
- 4) **Labashi-Marduk** (Negrilissar's son, only a child and of diminished mental capacity, ruled for 9 months when he was beaten to death by a gang of conspirators in a coup.)
- 5) **Nabonidus** (Appointed by the conspirators, ruled until Cyrus the Persian conquered Babylon. Nabonidus left the capital for ten years to build and restore temples – mostly to Sin – leaving his son, **Belshazzar**, in charge.

It was during the reign of Nabonidus that the city fell to the Persians, and Nabonidus was taken into captivity by Cyrus the Persians.

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The Nabonidus Cylinder discovered in 1854 (and others discovered later) records the deeds of King Nabonidus and confirms his son Belshazzar's role.



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Daniel 5

“King Belshazzar made a great feast for a thousand of his lords and drank wine in front of the thousand. 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.”



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Or “ancestor... predecessor”
Also in verses 11, 13 and 18

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Daniel 5

“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. As they drank the wine, they praised the gods of gold and silver, of bronze, iron, wood and stone.”



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*Vessels once consecrated unto God
now defiled & used in arrogance!*

*There is a line once crossed
where God must act!*

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There is a line once crossed where God must act!

Pharaoh (Egypt), Noah, Sodom/Gomorrah, Canaan...

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Daniel 5

"Suddenly the fingers of a human hand appeared and wrote on the plaster of the wall, near the lampstand in the royal palace. The king watched the hand as it wrote. His face turned pale and he was so frightened that his legs became weak and his knees were knocking."




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Daniel 5

"The king summoned the enchanters, astrologers and diviners. Then he said to these wise men of Babylon, 'Whoever reads this writing and tells me what it means will be clothed in purple and have a gold chain placed around his neck, and he will be made the third highest ruler in the kingdom.' Then all the king's wise men came in, but they could not read the writing or tell the king what it meant. So King Belshazzar became even more terrified and his face grew more pale. His nobles were baffled."

Needed an interpretation, not a dictionary!



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Daniel 5

"The queen, hearing the voices of the king and his nobles, came into the banquet hall. 'May the king live forever!' she said. 'Don't be alarmed! Don't look so pale! There is a man in your kingdom!'"

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Daniel 5

"There is a man in your kingdom who has the spirit of the holy gods in him. In the time of your father he was found to have insight and intelligence and wisdom like that of the gods. Your father, King Nebuchadnezzar, appointed him chief of the magicians, enchanters, astrologers and diviners. He did this because Daniel, whom the king called Belteshazzar, was found to have a keen mind and knowledge and understanding, and also the ability to interpret dreams, explain riddles and solve difficult problems."

Call for Daniel, and he will tell you what the writing means."

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605 - 539 = 66 years + age when taken

Daniel is approximately 80!

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Daniel 5

"So Daniel was brought before the king, and the king said to him, 'Are you Daniel, one of the exiles my father the king brought from Judah? I have heard that the spirit of the gods is in you and that you have insight, intelligence and outstanding wisdom.'"

No personal connection!

1 Kings 12

"But Rehoboam (Solomon's son) rejected the advice the elders gave him and consulted the young men who had grown up with him and were serving him..."

Daniel 5

"Let your gifts be for yourself!"

Genesis 14:22-24

"But Abram said to the king of Sodom, 'With raised hand I have sworn an oath to the Lord, God Most High, Creator of heaven and earth, that I will accept nothing belonging to you, not even a thread or the strap of a sandal, so that you will never be able to say, 'I made Abram rich.'"

Daniel 5

"Let your gifts be for yourself!"

"You are his successor!"

Declares the history Belshazzar should have learned from!

Romans 15:4

"For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us..."

Daniel 5

"Here is what these words mean:

Mene: *"Numbered!" - (2x) God has numbered the days of your reign and brought it to an end.*

Tekel: *"Weighed" - You have been weighed on the scales and found wanting.*

Peres: *"Divided" - Your kingdom is divided and given to the Medes and Persians."*

Secular history (once again) **fills in much detail here showing how the Babylonian king felt secure within the walls of that great city and how Darius easily conquered the city by lowering the level of the River Euphrates which flowed through the city so that his army could enter the city unhindered.**

<https://bible.org/seriespage/6-hand-god-history-daniel-51-31>

Conservative calculations set the dimensions of the ancient city of Babylon like this:

- The outer walls were 17 miles long.
- These walls were 22 feet thick and 90 feet high.
- The outer walls also had guard towers another 100 feet high.
- The city gates were made of bronze.
- A system of inner and outer walls and moats made the city very secure.

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c. **Given to the Medes and Persians:** The ancient Greek historian Herodotus relates that the Persian King Cyrus conquered Babylon by diverting the flow of the Euphrates into a nearby swamp. This lowered the level of the river so his troops marched through the water and under the river-gates. They still would not have been able to enter had not the bronze gates of the inner walls been left inexplicably unlocked. This was exactly what God predicted in [Isaiah 44:28-45:7](#) and [Jeremiah 51:57-58](#). God opened the gates of the city of Babylon for Cyrus, and put it in writing 200 years before it happened.

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TOOLS Jer 51:57 "And I will make drunk Her princes and wise men, Her governors, her deputies, and her mighty men. And they shall sleep a perpetual sleep And not awake," says the King, Whose name is the LORD of hosts.

TOOLS Jer 51:58 ¶ Thus says the LORD of hosts: "The broad walls of Babylon shall be utterly broken, And her high gates shall be burned with fire; The people will labor in vain, And the nations, because of the fire; And they shall be weary."

Also – Isaiah 44!
God opened the gates of the city of Babylon for Cyrus, and put it in writing 200 years before it happened.

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"Instead, you have set yourself up against the Lord of heaven. You had the goblets from his temple brought to you, and you and your nobles, your wives and your concubines drank wine from them. You praised the gods of silver and gold, of bronze, iron, wood and stone, which cannot see or hear or understand. But you did not honor the God who holds your breath... He now declares your judgment!"
Daniel 5:22-24

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"That very night..."

Belshazzar, king of the Chaldeans, was slain. And Darius the Mede received the kingdom, being about 62 years old."

The word was fulfilled just as Daniel said. God's Word is always reliable and true.

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Nebuchadnezzar vs Belshazzar

"I was at ease..."
Daniel 4:4

*Self-... pride
Praised... silver, bronze, wood, stone...*

Not a cultural faux pas!

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Nebuchadnezzar vs Belshazzar

"I was at ease..."

Daniel 4:4

*Nebuchadnezzar walked toward
revelation and knowledge!*

*Belshazzar had the benefit of
the revelation!*

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Sin blinds!

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You knew but didn't do!

*"If anyone, then, knows the good they ought
to do and doesn't do it, it is sin for them."*

James 4:17

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