

Daniel: Stand Firm

Text: Daniel 5:1-31

Read Vv. 1-4

Read Vv. 5-16

Context of the story.

Then Daniel answered the king, "You may keep your gifts for yourself and give your rewards to someone else. Nevertheless, I will read the writing for the king and tell him what it means. (Vs. 17)

Read Vv. 18-21

But you, Belshazzar, his son, have not humbled yourself, though you knew all this. (Vs. 22)

Herein lies the fundamental flaw of the human heart. We avoid the responsibility of hearing the truth, or knowing the truth, because we don't want to do what we don't want to do, or simply, we want to do what we want to do.

Words:

- i. *Mene* – numbered: the illusion is it's my life and I'll do as I want.
- ii. *Tekel* – weighed: the illusion that you can get away it.
- iii. *Peres* – broken: the illusion that my life will go on for as long as I want it to go on.

Then at Belshazzar's command, Daniel was clothed in purple, a gold chain was placed around his neck, and he was proclaimed the third highest ruler in the kingdom. That very night Belshazzar, king of the Babylonians, was slain, and Darius the Mede took over the kingdom, at the age of sixty-two. (Vv. 29-31)