

Daniel 4-5 Tales of Belshazzar Opening: Belshazzar :the King
Belshazzar the royal name given to Daniel

Belshazzar: r.539-556 BC, the co-regent with Nabiondas, although the Bible makes him the son of Nebuchadrezzar

Nebuchadrezzar: longest ruling king of Babylon, whose forces destroyed Jerusalem in 598 BC. The Assyrians who had vanquished Israel were defeated at Carcame by Necho II of Egypt

Ch 4: the madness of the King (a common trope: Saul, Lear)

God speaks through a dream

v. 14: the holy ones, the court of heaven

v 18 an amount of flattery, but he was a powerful king

v. 4:30 he is driven mad by God for arrogance

but. ..reality for Jerusalem 2 Kings 25

God drives King Saul mad: lunacy was a divine issue

Ending: theme of fall leads to repentance and humility

Ch. 5: the fall of Baby Ion and the rise of Persia

vv. 14: Partying with the Sacred Vessals of the Temple

Described in Exodus

God does not need them, but we do

The Writing on the Wall: God is not silent. He is hard to understand and we must ask for help to understand, but He is not silent

v. 13 Daniel is summoned but the king does not realize who he is

*God is king of kings: he rule over them

Leviticus ch 26: the threat

Note the lugal/Enlil policy: you pay, you stay

But God does not demand tribute of gold, but of hearts and obedience

You have trusted in gold and idols: let them save you now

Ch 6: Daniel, by contrast is saved because he called upon God

Betrayed out of jealousy ("is it through jealousy that sin entered the world")

What is jealousy: saying I am angry the way god made things

The king submits to his own law but he humbles