

👉 "THE WRITING ON THE WALL" 👈

1. Recall one of your most scary, hair-raising, goose-bumpy, heart-thumping experiences. What was so scary?

2. Who do you know that is good at solving puzzles, riddles, a Rubik's cubes, crosswords, etc.?

3. What flashbacks to Nebuchadnezzar's reign would provide contrasting relief and background insight to the drama here? What sin has Belshazzar added to his father's (Vv.2-4)? How is this an insult to God? How is this even worse than his father's sin (vv.22-23)?

4. What does Belshazzar's reaction to the mysterious hand (vv.6-9) disclose about him? About his little secure world? His guilt? Fear?

5. What does the king learn that money, things and promotions can not buy, but only Daniel can supply? How is that point made by the queen? By Daniel?

6. What does Daniel's rejection of flattery and rewards (v.17) say about the authenticity of this man and his message?

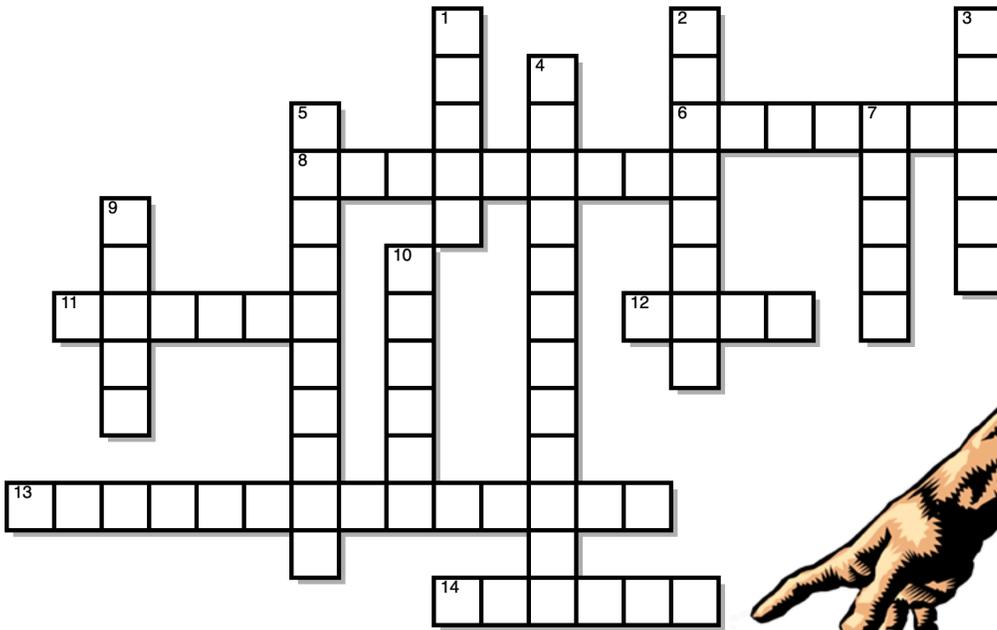
7. What does the handwriting on the wall mean (vv.26-28)? How is that prophecy fulfilled? In accord with what prediction (see 2:36-39)?

8. Compare the two kings' portraits in 5:29-30 and 4:34-37. Whom do they praise? What does that tell you about them? From their contrasting fates, what do you learn about God's mercy and justice, power and authority?

9. What contemporary examples come to mind of people mocking God by demeaning sacred things, as Belshazzar did with the temple goblets? Then and now, does it seem God is quick, or slow, to judge such sacrilegious behavior? Why? How do you feel about that?

10. What have you learned from your parents or predecessors? Why do people often fail, as does Belshazzar, to learn from the past?

11. What would you do if you were offered position and/or power as a way to buy your vote or pre-determine your thinking?



Down

- 1 These items belonging to Belshazzar began to knock together when the hand appeared. (5:6)
- 2 "Are you that Daniel who is one of the _____?"
- 3 What was the name of the king who defeated Babylon that night.
- 4 This was Daniel's Babylonian name. (5:12)
- 5 The name of the king in this passage.
- 7 This word is the same word as "shekel", and with different vowels attached to the Aramaic consonants means "weighed".
- 9 The feast was made for a thousand of the king's _____. (5:1)
- 10 This word means "half-shekel", and with different vowels attached to the Aramaic consonants means "divided".

Across

- 6 The wall the hand wrote on was made of this substance. (5:5)
- 8 What is the adjective the queen uses to describe Daniel's spirit? (5:12)
- 11 Daniel says, "the God who holds your _____ in His hand and owns all your ways, you have not glorified." (5:25)
- 12 This word is the same word as "mina", and with different vowels attached to the Aramaic consonants means "numbered".
- 13 Who had taken the vessels of gold and silver from the Jerusalem temple?
- 14 Belshazzar promised to clothe the person who could interpret the writing in this color. (5:7)

WORD SEARCH:

- | | |
|-------------|----------------|
| Daniel | Chaldeans |
| Feast | Soothsayers |
| Thousand | Chain |
| Tasted | Third |
| Wine | Astonished |
| Gold | Queen |
| Silver | Light |
| Vessels | Understanding |
| Wives | Wisdom |
| Concubines | Knowledge |
| Temple | Riddles |
| Bronze | Enigmas |
| Iron | Nebuchadnezzar |
| Wood | Heart |
| Stone | Pride |
| Fingers | Beasts |
| Hand | Night |
| Astrologers | Mede |

