

# The Book of Daniel

18. Who would conquer Babylon according to the OT prophets? (Isa. 45:1-5, 44:28, 41:25, 46:11, 13:17, 21:2, Jer. 51:11, 28-29).

- a. An unknown person from an unknown land
- b. The Medo-Persian king Cyrus
- c. Egypt's Pharaoh Ptolemy

19. What would happen to the waters of Babylon? (Jer. 50:38, 51:32, 36, Isa. 44:27, Rev. 16:12)

- a. It would dry up
- b. Its banks would be flooded
- c. It would remain a safe shelter from the enemy.

20. Notice some of the similarities between the fall of Babylon and the fall of spiritual Babylon in Revelation:

	<b>Ancient Babylon</b>	<b>Spiritual Babylon</b>
Woman, city	Isa. 47:1, 8	Rev. 17:2-5, 16
Sits on many waters	Jer. 51:13	Rev. 17:1, 15
Defeats God's people & brings them into captivity	Jer. 25:11; 2 Chron. 36:17-20	Rev. 17:6; 13:7
Golden cup	Jer. 51:7	Rev. 17:4
Gets the kings of the earth drunk with wine	Dan. 5:1-3	Rev. 14:8; 17:2; 18:3
Falls when the kings of the east dry up the Euphrates	Dan. 5:28-31; Jer. 50:38; 51:11, 30-39	Rev. 16:12; 14:8; 18:2
Falls like a stone in the water	Jer. 51:25, 63-64	Rev. 18:21
God's people are called out of Babylon	Jer. 51:6, 44-45; Isa. 48:20; Zech. 2:6-7	Rev. 18:4

21. Clearly, there is a parallel in Daniel 5 to the end times. What can we learn from Belshazzar's feast? (Luk. 21:34, 12:45, 1Thess. 5:6-8, 1Pet. 4:3-7, 5:8)

- a. To be sober and vigilant, physically and spiritually.
- b. That God forgives us no matter what we do.
- c. That we should love our neighbor.

Please circle the correct answers based on Bible texts in brackets.

1. Who removes and raises up kings and rulers in the world? (Dan. 2:20-21, Rom. 13:1, John 19:11)
  - a. Chance and the strength of human armies
  - b. Satan and conspirators of secret societies
  - c. The God of Heaven
2. How many generations would all nations serve the king of Babylon? (Jer. 27:6-7, 29:10, 25:12)
  - a. For three generations (70 years)
  - b. For two years and ten days
  - c. For seven generations (280 years)
3. Who was Belshazzar? (Dan. 5:1, 7, 13, 16, 18; Jer. 27:7)
  - a. A fictitious person by a Greek Jew in the 2nd century BC.
  - b. A senior general in Babylon under Nabonidus.
  - c. The last king of Babylon, Nebuchadnezzar's grandson.
4. For many years, skeptics believed that Belshazzar was a fictional character, since all Greek and Persian sources say that Nabonidus was the last king of Babylon. However, in the 19th and 20th centuries, archaeological finds confirmed that Belshazzar existed, that he was the son of Nabonidus (the child of one of Nebuchadnezzar's harem women), and that he had become the acting king of Babylon when Nabonidus left for Tema in Arabia. Surprised, the skeptics have been forced to admit: "We shall presumably never know how our author learned ... that Belshazzar, mentioned only in Babylonian records, in Daniel, and in Bar. 1:11, which is based on Daniel, was functioning as king

- when Cyrus took Babylon." (Robert H. Pfeiffer, *Introduction to the Old Testament* [1941], pp. 758, 759). Despite the evidence, some refuse to accept that Daniel was written at the time of Babylon.
5. The Persians under the leadership of Cyrus and the Medes under Darius had laid siege to Babylon. But the Babylonians were not worried because they thought they had enough provisions for a 20-year siege. What does king Belshazzar decide to do? (Dan. 5:1)
    - a. He drills his soldiers hard for the coming battle.
    - b. He fasts and asks God to help him in the coming crisis.
    - c. He throws a big drunken party for all his lords.
  6. How were the great men of the kingdom affected by the wine? (Dan. 5:2-3; Jer. 51:7, 39, 57; Rev. 17:2)
    - a. The wine did not affect them; they drank in moderation.
    - b. They got drunk and went further in sin than otherwise.
    - c. The wine strengthened their courage for the battle.
  7. Who do they praise during the feast? (Dan. 5:4)
    - a. Idols
    - b. Jehovah
    - c. Jesus
  8. What suddenly interrupted the lively party? (Dan. 5:5)
    - a. God's hand writing signs on the wall.
    - b. The news that Babylon was taken.
    - c. Daniel's rebuke of the king's sins.
  9. How did the king and the revelers feel? (Dan. 5:6, 9)
    - a. They mocked God and continued the festivities.
    - b. They trembled with fear and dread.
    - c. They repented and worshipped Yahweh.
  10. Were the wise men able to interpret the text? (Dan. 5:7-12)
    - a. Yes, this time they succeeded.
    - b. No, Daniel had to come to the rescue again.
    - c. They understand some of the text, but not all of it.
  11. What does the king offer Daniel for his efforts (Dan. 5:13-16)?
    - a. That he can marry the king's daughter.
    - b. Great wealth and power to rule as third in the kingdom.
    - c. Setting the people of Israel free.
  12. Does Daniel accept the offer? (Dan. 5:17)
    - a. Yes, he accepts the gifts and interprets the writing.
    - b. No, but he deciphers the writing anyway.
    - c. No, he refuses to interpret the writing.
  13. Daniel reminds Belshazzar of Nebuchadnezzar, what led to his fall and restoration (Dan. 5:17-21). What was Belshazzar expected to do, since he knew this? (Dan. 5:22-24, Jas. 4:17, John 9:41, 12:35).
    - a. Humble himself before God and repent.
    - b. Since he was not a Jew, his sins were excusable.
    - c. Elevate the Jews to high positions and give them wealth.
  14. What did the writing on the wall mean? (Dan. 5:25-28)
    - a. God has numbered your kingdom, and finished it.
    - b. You are weighed in the balances, and found wanting.
    - c. Your kingdom is divided between Medes and Persians.
  15. What did the king do to Daniel? (Dan. 5:29)
    - a. Killed him.
    - b. Ran away from him in fear.
    - c. Exalted him and gave him riches.
  16. When was Belshazzar judged? (Dan. 5:30-31, Isa. 47:9)
    - a. Three years later
    - b. Three weeks later
    - c. The same night
  17. According to the Greek historians Herodotus and Xenophon, Babylon was taken by Cyrus by drying up the waters of the Euphrates River that flowed through Babylon. This happened on a night when "all the city" was feasting, and getting drunk (see Xenophon, *Cyropaedia*, 7:5:13-25, Herodotus, *History*, 1:182-192).