

Belshazzar the king made a great feast. Previous to ~~the~~ the chapter we have no mention of Belshazzar. In fact we do not have any mention of Belshazzar anywhere else in the Bible, except in the book of Daniel. Belshazzar the king made a great feast to a thousand of his lords, and drank wine before the thousand. And Belshazzar, while he tasted the wine, commanded to bring the golden and silver vessels which his father Nebuchadnezzar had taken out of the temple which was in Jerusalem; that the king, and the princes, his wives, and his concubines, might drink therein." And we read in verse 5, While they were engaging in this carousing and in this blasphemous use of <sup>these things from the</sup> ~~this~~ sacred/temple/ in Jerusalem, that , in verse 5, it says, "In the same hour came forth fingers of a man's hand, and wrote over against the candlestick, upon the plaister of the wall of the king's palace: and the king saw the part of the hand that wrote." And the king was very much disturbed about this <sup>writing</sup> handwriting and the king wanted to know what it ~~said-~~ said, and what it meant, and so in verse 7, the king called the astrologers, and the Chaldeans and the soothsayers. And the king said to the wise men of Babylon, Whosoever shall read this writing, and shew me the interpretation thereof, shall be clothed with scarlet, and have a chain of gold about his neck, and shall be ~~the-third-ruler~~ the third ruler in the kingdom." And they brought in all the wise men, but none of them could read the writing. And the king was very much disturbed that he could not find out what this meant. And then the queen mother came in, and ~~she said/~~ she said that there was a man in the kingdom who had been very prominent in the day of the king Nebuchadnezzar, the previous king, but who was ~~not-~~ now living and retiring, and she said, Daniel was able to solve the great mysteries in the days of Nebuchadnezzar, and she said, Call him and he will show you the interpretation. We read then that they called Daniel and brought him in, and in verse 16, the king said to him." And ... now if thou canst read the writing, and make known to me the interpretation thereof, thou shalt be clothed with scarlet, and have a ~~chi~~ chain of-g~~l-~~ gold about thy neck, and shalt be the third ruler in the kingdom." I think Daniel already was able to read the ~~writing~~ writing. He saw that all these gifts would not do him any good. He knew what the writing was, Was it the