

King Belshazzar gave a great banquet for a thousand of his nobles and drank wine with them. ⁴As they drank the wine, they praised the gods of gold and silver, of bronze, iron, wood and stone. ⁵Suddenly the fingers of a human hand appeared and wrote on the plaster of the wall, near the lampstand in the royal palace. The king watched the hand as it wrote.⁶His face turned pale and he was so frightened that his legs became weak and his knees were knocking. Daniel 5:1,4-6 (NIV)

“This is the message that was written: MENE, MENE, TEKEL, and PARSIN.²⁶“Here is what these words mean: Mene: God has numbered the days of your reign and brought it to an end.²⁷ Tekel You have been weighed on the scales and found wanting.²⁸ Peres: Your kingdom is divided and given to the Medes and Persians.” - ³⁰That very night Belshazzar, the Babylonian king, was killed.³¹And Darius the Mede took over the kingdom at the age of sixty-two.

Daniel 5:25-28; 30-31 (NLT)

My _____ are _____.

God has numbered the days of your reign and brought it to an end.

Teach us to number our days,
that we may gain a heart of wisdom. Psalm 90:12 (NIV)

I am _____ to God.

You have been weighed on the scales and found wanting.

So then, each of us will give an account of ourselves to God.
Romans 14:12 (NIV)

Authority is a _____ and a _____.

Your kingdom is divided and given to the Medes and Persians.

Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms. ¹¹...so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen. I Peter 4:10,11b (NIV)

_____ is in _____!

Sermons available online @ www.concordiawesleyan.com/sermons

If my people...

Who’s In Charge?

Message #1

September 11, 2016

A Biblical perspective for perilous times

Pastor David Redmond

Daniel 4

I urge you, first of all, to pray for all people. Ask God to help them; intercede on their behalf, and give thanks for them. I Timothy 2:1 (NLT)

King Nebuchadnezzar, To the nations and peoples of every language, who live in all the earth: May you prosper greatly! ²It is my pleasure to tell you about the miraculous signs and wonders that the Most High God has performed for me. ³How great are his signs, how mighty his wonders! His kingdom is an eternal kingdom; his dominion endures from generation to generation. ⁴I, Nebuchadnezzar, was at home in my palace, contented and prosperous. ⁵I had a dream that made me afraid. As I was lying in bed, the images and visions that passed through my mind terrified me.

Daniel 4:1-5 (NIV)

““The decision is announced by messengers, the holy ones declare the verdict, so that the living may know that the Most High is sovereign over all kingdoms on earth and gives them to anyone he wishes and sets over them the lowliest of people.””

Daniel 4:17 (NIV)

Truths to hang on to in perilous time:

God _____.

“...the Most High is sovereign over all...”

The LORD has established His throne in the heavens, And His sovereignty rules over all. ²⁰ Bless the LORD, you His angels, Mighty in strength, who perform His word, Obeying the voice of His word! ²¹ Bless the LORD, all you His hosts, You who serve Him, doing His will. ²² Bless the LORD, all you works of His, In all places of His dominion; Bless the LORD, O my soul! Psalm 103:19-22 (NLT)

See: Psalm 95:3-6

God's reign is _____.

"...the kingdoms on earth..."

*"This, then, is how you should pray:
"Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
¹⁰ your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven." Matthew 6:9-10 (NIV)*

Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God. ⁵ Therefore, it is necessary to submit to the authorities, not only because of possible punishment but also as a matter of conscience. ⁶ This is also why you pay taxes, for the authorities are God's servants, who give their full time to governing. ⁷ Give to everyone what you owe them: If you owe taxes, pay taxes; if revenue, then revenue; if respect, then respect; if honor, then honor.

Romans 13:1, 5-7 (NIV)

This is the interpretation, Your Majesty, and this is the decree the Most High has issued against my lord the king:

²⁵...Seven times will pass by for you until you acknowledge that the Most High is sovereign over all kingdoms on earth and gives them to anyone he wishes. ²⁶The command to leave the stump of the tree with its roots means that your kingdom will be restored to you when you acknowledge that Heaven rules. Daniel 4:24, 25b-26 (NIV)

God's reign is _____.

"...and gives them to whoever he wishes."

*The king's heart is like a stream of water directed by the LORD;
he guides it wherever he pleases. Proverbs 21:1 (NLT)*

Twelve months later, as the king was walking on the roof of the royal palace of Babylon, ³⁰he said, "Is not this the great Babylon I have built as the royal residence, by my mighty power and for the glory of my majesty?" ³¹Even as the words were on his lips, a voice came from heaven, "This is what is decreed for you, King Nebuchadnezzar: Your royal authority has been taken from you. ³²You will be driven away from people and will live with the wild animals; you will eat grass like the ox. Seven times will pass by for you until you acknowledge that the Most High is sovereign over all kingdoms on earth and gives them to anyone he wishes." Daniel 4:29-32 (NIV)

Then say to them, 'This is what the LORD Almighty, the God of Israel, says: I will send for my servant Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, and I will set his throne over these stones I have buried here; he will spread his royal canopy above them. Jeremiah 43:10 (NIV)

God's reign is _____.

"...so that the living may know that the Most High is sovereign over all kingdoms on earth and gives them to anyone he wishes and sets over them the lowliest of people."

³⁴ At the end of that time, I, Nebuchadnezzar, raised my eyes toward heaven, and my sanity was restored. Then I praised the Most High; I honored and glorified him who lives forever. His dominion is an eternal dominion; his kingdom endures from generation to generation. ³⁵ All the peoples of the earth are regarded as nothing. He does as he pleases with the powers of heaven and the peoples of the earth. No one can hold back his hand or say to him: "What have you done?" ³⁶ At the same time that my sanity was restored, my honor and splendor were returned to me for the glory of my kingdom. My advisers and nobles sought me out, and I was restored to my throne and became even greater than before. ³⁷ Now I, Nebuchadnezzar, praise and exalt and glorify the King of heaven, because everything he does is right and all his ways are just. And those who walk in pride he is able to humble. Daniel 4:34-37 (NIV)

"There could be no greater display of the glory of the grace of God than what happened at Calvary. Everything leading to it and everything flowing from it is explained by it, including all the suffering in the world." (John Piper)