

From Ridicule to Royalty

Daniel 5

4-part plot in each chapter:

- Politics of the nation (vv. 1-6)
- Ploy of satan (vv. 7-12)
- Plan of God (vv. 13-28)
- Praise to God (v. 29-30)

Personal Application:

- Politics – Belshazzar was guilty of using holy items for unholy purposes. Are we ever guilty of using what God has deemed holy for unholy purposes?
- Ploy – When Belshazzar was confronted with a problem he had, with regard to his relationship to God, he refused to do anything about it. Do we ever in our spiritual life ignore the calling of God to address a problem area in our lives?
- Plan – When ridiculed, Daniel served the king rather than smiting the king. When others ridicule us, is our first response to serve or to smite?
- Praise – Because of Daniel's humility he was exalted. Is our first response one of humility or exaltation?

Points to Ponder:

- Handle what is sacred, sacredly!
- When confronted with a problem, deal with it!
- When ridiculed by others serve, don't smite!
- Remember, those who humble themselves, God will exalt!