



~ Lesson 5 ~
“Time’s Up!”

WEDNESDAY CONNECT STUDY

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Introduction

Have you read what the Bible says about God’s patience with sin and open rebellion? In Numbers 14:18 (NKJV), we read, ‘The Lord is longsuffering and abundant in mercy, forgiving iniquity and transgression; **but He by no means clears the guilty...**’ Clearly, there is a point when the consequences of our actions catch up with us. We can be grateful for God’s mercy but must remain mindful of His justice.

Twenty-three years have passed since the death of Nebuchadnezzar. On the throne of the capital city of this great empire sits the grandson of the “head of gold,” Belshazzar, son of Nabonidus, as co-regent. With no introduction, abruptly, we are in the middle of a royal banquet set by the king in honor of the gods of the empire. A heinous, blasphemous offense takes place at this gathering that tips the cup of God’s indignation to overflowing and sets in motion the fulfillment of the transition of kingdom rule and power. The pronouncement from heaven comes in the form of a mysterious handwritten message on the wall of the banquet hall. Let’s give careful study to the message of Daniel 5 in this week’s lesson, when God says, “Time’s Up!”

Focus Text ~

⁶ Then the king's countenance changed, and his thoughts troubled him, so that the joints of his hips were loosened and his knees knocked against each other.

Daniel 5:6 (NKJV)

Disrespect!

What did Belshazzar command to be done at the banquet? What happened?

Daniel 5:2-4

Why would this be offensive to God, and what was His response?

Daniel 5:5

Discuss what happens next with Belshazzar and compare it with Nebuchadnezzar's experiences.

Daniel 5:6-12

Daniel's Response, Message & Interpretation!

How does Daniel respond to this new king?

Daniel 5:13-29

What was the interpretation of "*Mene, Mene, Tekel, Upharsin*"?

“Times Up!”

How does God fulfill His will and bring about the next earthly kingdom transition?

Daniel 5:30-31

Conclusion:

What are some takeaways for you and how do they apply to the Christian journey from your study of Daniel 5?
