The Writing Is On the Wall

Daniel 5:1-30 (Message 5)

"Many mourn for their sins that do not truly repent of them, weep bitterly for them and yet continue in love and league with them." "Matthew Henry

"Without wise leadership, a nation falls; there is safety in having many advisers." Proverbs 11:14 NLT

There are three lessons we can learn from this passage.

1st Lesson: The <u>neglect</u> for God <u>leads</u> to the <u>abuse</u> of <u>sacred</u> things.

Whenever God is <u>not</u> our first <u>priority</u>, we choose to abuse life's valuable <u>elements</u> for <u>selfish</u> pleasure.

Daniel 5:1-4 (NLT); 1 Peter 2:16 "Don't give in to excuses that can keep you from really living the best life God has for you." ~Joyce Meyer

"I find that when I think I am asking God to forgive me I am often in reality... asking Him not to forgive me but to excuse me." ~C. S. Lewis

2nd Lesson: The <u>writing</u> on the wall is God's <u>warning</u> to <u>repent</u> and change.

God's grace provides the <u>opportunity</u> for us to <u>renounce</u> our sin and follow Him.

- Daniel 5:5; Acts 3:19
- ➤ Spiritual conviction is a sign that something in our lives needs to be changed.

"Following Christ isn't something that can be done half-heartedly or on the side. It is not a label we can display when it is useful. It must be central to everything we do and are." "Francis Chan, Crazy Love

3rd Lesson: The <u>lack</u> of <u>repentance</u> of sin indicates our <u>personal</u> choice to pay the consequences for our sin.

Daniel 5:29, 30; 1 John 1:9

"We have a strange illusion that more time cancels sin. But more time does nothing either to the fact or to the guilt of a sin." $^{\sim}$ C. S. Lewis

"When we stray from His presence, He longs for you to come back. He weeps that you are missing out on His love, protection, and provision. He throws His arms open, runs toward you, gathers you up, and welcomes you home." "Charles Stanley