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**Promoting self Vs
Honouring God**

~65 years passed...

Nebuchadnezzar died (Daniel 4)!
But Daniel continued with clear visions (Daniel 7,8).

Honouring self or God?

Babylon promotes self and pride!

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Head of Gold / Winged Lion Babylonian Empire (605 BC – 539 BC)

Breast and arms of silver / Bear Medo-Persian Empire (539 BC – 331 BC)

Thighs of brass / Leopard winged and four heads: Greek Empire (331 BC – 168 BC)

Legs of iron, Feet of iron and clay / dreadful beast with ten horns: Roman Empire (168 BC – 476 AD)



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The infographic is presented on a parchment background with a decorative border. It is divided into two main sections: the Ram and the He-Goat.

VISION OF THE RAM (MEDO-PERSIA) [cite: 1.1]
The Ram is depicted in a landscape with a city in the background. It has two horns of unequal length. The larger, higher horn is labeled 'Higher Horn: PERSIA (STRONGER) [cite: 3.3]'. The smaller, lower horn is labeled 'One Horn: MEDIA'. The text 'Medo-Persia (539-331 BC) [cite: 3.3]' appears twice, once near each horn. The metal is identified as 'Metal: SILVER (🌐)' and the beast as 'Beast: BEAR (🐻)'. The city is labeled 'Susa, and Persepolis'. [cite: 1.1]

THE HE-GOAT (GREECE) [cite: 3.2, 3.3]
The He-Goat is shown running across a rocky landscape. It has a large, curved 'Main Horn' and a 'LITTLE HORN EMERGES' from its forehead. A circular inset shows a portrait of a man, labeled 'ONE GREAT HORN (ALEXANDER)'. The metal is 'Metal: BRASS (👑)' and the beast is 'Beast: LEOPARD (🐆)'. The text 'Chargin with unstoppable speed from the West [cite: 3.2]' is written to the right. Below the main goat, a broken horn is shown with the label 'Broken [cite: 3.2]'. Below that, a smaller goat is shown with four horns labeled 'FOUR NOTABLE HORNS': 'Ptolemy (Egypt)', 'Cassander (Macedonia)', 'Lysimachus (Thrace)', and 'Seleucus (Syria) [cite: 3.2]'. The 'LITTLE HORN EMERGES' is specifically identified as 'Antiochus IV Epiphanes (SYRIA; The ABOMINATION) [cite: 1.4, 3.2]'. [cite: 3.2, 3.3]

Bohn Daniel [cite: 1.1]

Belshazzar's Feast

(Daniel 5: 1-4)

He and the people in the feast drank from the vessels of Gold and silver brought from the Temple in Jerusalem.

What was the intention?

1. Pride (5:18-22)
2. Dishonoured the God of heaven (5:23)
3. It was an act to praise Babylon gods (Daniel 5:23)

THE WRITING ON THE WALL

God's finger - the direct manifestation

(Daniel 5:5)

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

The real trouble

(Daniel 5: 6, 9)

Then the king's countenance was changed, and his thoughts troubled him, so that the joints of his loins were loosed, and his knees smote one against another. ...Then was king Belshazzar greatly troubled, and his countenance was changed in him, and his lords were astonished.

...All the king's wise men (astrologers, the Chaldeans, and the soothsayers) could not read the writing, nor could interpret it. (Daniel 5:8)

MINE.MINE.TEKEL.UPHARSIN
Daniel's interpretation (Daniel 5:18-28)

A reminder from the life of Nebuchadnezzar
(Daniel 5:18-23)

...hast not humbled thine heart, though thou knewest all this, But
hast lifted up thyself against the Lord of heaven;

...hou hast praised the gods of silver, and gold, of brass, iron,
wood, and stone, which see not, nor hear, nor know:

...But the God in whose hand are your life-breath and all your ways,
you have not glorified. Daniel (5: 23)

THE JUDGEMENT OF GOD

(Daniel 5: 26-28)

MENE; God hath numbered thy kingdom, and finished it.

TEKEL; Thou art weighed in the balances, and art found wanting.

PERES; Thy kingdom is divided, and given to the Medes and
Persians.

Daniel was honoured!

In that night was Belshazzar the king of the Chaldeans slain.

(Daniel 5: 19-31)

The Message

**True Strength comes from the Creator (Be strong)
Strength of God is shown in honouring Him (Yea, Be strong)**

The Lesson

Babylon promotes self and pride!

Pride is weakness

(Daniel 5:27)

Leads to honouring self and dishonouring God (The "I" Trap)

Pride destroys!

(Daniel 5:30; Daniel 4:28-33)

He, that being often reprov'd hardeneth his neck,
shall suddenly be destroyed, and that without remedy.

Proverbs 29:1

The weighing scale

**THE LIGHT LIFE
(BELSHAZZAR'S PATH)**

FEATHER-WEIGHT
HEART (TEKEL)
[cite: 1.4, 3.3]



TEKEL:
YOU ARE WEIGHED AND
FOUND LIGHT (WANTING)
[cite: 1.4]

[cite: 1.1, 1.4]

SUBSTANCE &
SPIRITUAL GRAVITY
(KAVOD)
[cite: 1.1, 1.4]

**THE DIVINE
BALANCE:
WEIGHING THE
"ROYAL SEED"**

[cite: 1.1]

**THE WEIGHTY LIFE
(DANIEL'S PATH)**



PERES:
YOUR LIFE HAS
SUBSTANCE AND
IS REMEMBERED
[cite: 1.4]

INTEGRITY
[cite: 1.1, 1.4]

STONE CUT
WITHOUT HANDS
[cite: 3.2]

EMPTY
VESSELS
[cite: 3.3]

Study Group Signature
[cite: 1.1]

The Lesson

The world (represented by Babylon) works on **pride of life!**
(1 John 2:16)

Pride says: “I am strong.”

(People with pride - can not learn; despise authorities)

Humility says: “God is my strength.”

(People with humility - teachable, honours authorities)

God judges the proud and God gives strength to humble
(1 Samuel 2:4; Proverbs 29:23)

My Decision

Strength of God available to me from the my Creator.
I will be strong and show that strength in honouring God.

I am in Babylon, but I do not belong to Babylon,
I will not be influence by the pride of life.
I receive the strength from my creator
and be strong in honouring Him.
I will be strong, yea, I will be strong.

1. The continued vision of Daniel, God revealed that the kingdoms will be more hostile - like beasts that devour (Daniel 7 and Daniel 8)

- What could be the message of God to Daniel?

2. The real intention of Belshazzar in drinking wine in the holy vessels is show of Pride (5:18-22); to praise Babylon gods (Daniel 5:23) and to mock God of heaven (5:23).

- Why Belshazzar could not learn from the life of Nebuchadnezzar?
- How you(th) may dishonour God?
- You are the vessel that God wants to use for his glory and honour. Reflect on this and discuss among yourselves on how to honour God.

3. The world, like Babylon, promotes self and pride.

- Pride is the "I trap". Discuss about pride and the damages it can bring in your life?
- Daniel continued to be humble and honoured God in a system that promotes self and pride. What was his secret of his strength?

4. God weighed Belshazzar, gave him time to learn from Nebuchadnezzar.

- If God weighed your life today, would you be "too light" or "weigh enough"?
- What are the adjustments you would like to your lifestyle, if you are "too light"?