

Without Excuse
Daniel 5:13-23
Pastor Conley

Review:

In this passage Daniel predicts Belshazzar's downfall. He is brought in to interpret the meaning of the mysterious handwriting that appears on the wall. God's message to Belshazzar through Daniel's interpretation is not only the indictment of Belshazzar, but of the entire human race. It includes, first, a willful refusal to acknowledge what he knew about God to be true. This led, secondly, to arrogant sacrilege, and finally, to irrational idolatry (see also Rom. 1:16-32). Pastor Conley summarized this message by stating, "Your life is about *whom* you worship." Even a moral life not given to God is doomed. You must honor God as He really is.

Application:

1. The root of all mankind's sin is the failure to glorify/honor God as God. Does your life show that you truly honor God as your Lord/Master? How, specifically, do your choices (use of time, money, thoughts, activities) seek to glorify Him/fail to glorify Him? What needs to change?
2. In what ways will God hold you more accountable for your knowledge of Him? We have God's Word, His revelation of Himself, in our hands. Are you willfully denying God's truth about Himself?
3. What did Pastor Conley mean when he said that a moral life not given to God is doomed? Does this describe your life? On what are you depending for your salvation?
4. We can discern idols of our hearts by asking ourselves: What do I love? What do I trust? What am I willing to live for? What am I willing to die for? If the answer ~~is~~ not "Jesus Christ," what is the idol of your heart? How can you change?