



Guess Who's Coming to Dinner

Daniel 5:1-31

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1. These days, what is God teaching you about Himself that is helping you to live more courageously?
2. Are there situations in your life that right now require you to live with courage?

Belshazzar's Background (verses 1-9)

1. Belshazzar seemingly had everything (wives, concubines, a kingdom, a throne, power, wealth, etc.). Why wasn't it enough?
2. What affect do you think Belshazzar's background had on how he chose to live life?
3. How does your background affect how you are living life?

The Queen's Advice (verses 10-16)

1. Why is Daniel not impressed with Belshazzar's attempts to "butter him up" and to give him great rewards?
2. Thinking about your answer to the previous question, what does Daniel's attitude indicate about the differences between Daniel and Belshazzar?

Daniel's Answer (verses 17-24)

1. What was it that Belshazzar should have known?
2. Belshazzar had refused to let what he knew in his head affect the way he lived his life. Why do you think he had made this choice?
3. Why do you think it is so hard for us to let what we know about God affect the way we live our lives?
4. Have you ever fallen into the role of a "poser"?

God's Judgment (verses 25-31)

1. God's judgment is a warning that we can pay attention to. God holds us accountable for the truth about Himself that we have been exposed to in life. These days how might you see God's handwriting on the wall of your life?
2. In how you're living your life, is there anything that God might be warning you about?

Processing All That...

1. The account of Belshazzar's feast touches us because it speaks to our human predicament. Apart from God, we are left with our own efforts to cover our inadequacy and to defend ourselves in the face of judgment. What is encouraging is that God warns us about our efforts at being adequate because He desires to be our adequacy. Consider what the following verses have to say about who we are and what God offers to us in Jesus Christ:
 - Romans 5:9-11
 - Romans 7:24-8:1
 - Romans 8:31,32
 - 2 Corinthians 3:5
 - 2 Corinthians 12:9
2. What steps can you take this week to apply God's teaching from these verses?
3. What steps can you take this week to share with someone, who needs to know, what God offers us in Jesus?

Generic Catch All Last Question...

1. Anything else not covered above or that particularly impresses you from this study?