

TEMKIT FOR CHILDREN

TEMKIT'S MISSION:

To provide Bible based, true reading material for children and youth.

Year 1 - 3rd Quarter - Issue #5



CREATION CORNER

IS SMOKING 'COOL' OR STUPID?

Smokers have a thousand percent greater chance of dying from lung cancer than do those who never smoke.

And cancer is not tobacco's only killer. A smoker's chances of dying from heart disease are 103 percent greater than those who have never smoked on a regular basis.

And emphysema claims more than 55,000 lives each year! Nicotine also causes the arteries to shrink.

This combination of fat buildup and shrinkage of the arteries hinders the blood vessels from supplying enough blood to the heart, extremities, and other organs. At this point it takes only a small blood clot caught in the constricted blood vessels to cause a heart attack or stroke.

The person who smokes is also a prime target for senility because of diminished oxygen to the brain. This means that a person's brain doesn't work right any more- he will not know even his own name after a while. Women who smoke during pregnancy are damaging their baby's blood vessels. Newborn deaths are 27 percent higher in infants of smoking mothers.

Cigarette smoking contributed to the deaths

of more than 500,000 people in just America alone last year.

Smokers not only subject others to the same health risks they subject themselves to, but they actually subject those around them to worse risks. Cast-off smoke contains twice as much tar and nicotine, three times as much of a certain kind of benzopyrene (a suspected cancer agent), five times as much carbon monoxide (which robs the blood of life giving oxygen), and 46 times as much ammonia as the smoke the smoker inhales! (according to the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare).

Then there is cadmium. No matter how little you inhale, cadmium stays in your lungs *forever!* It accumulates in the lungs, liver and kidneys. Emphysema victims have excess levels of cadmium. According to the Lung Association, some "research has shown that there is even more cadmium in the smoke that drifts off the burning end of the cigarette than in the drag the smoker inhales."

And a recent study conducted by the British government shows that a nonsmoker receives a larger dose of tar and nicotine than the smoker himself. (Of course the smoker also breathes

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the side smoke as well.)

A person living with a tobacco user is usually never well. Children suffer from tobacco smoke, as do even our pets. Don't keep company with someone who smokes in your presence! Ask them not to.

There is an interesting thing about nicotine; it interferes mostly with the spiritual part of your brain. It makes people not care about the claims of God and also the needs of other people. After all, the person who has no respect for his own body will not respect yours!

By the way, did you know that it has been scientifically proven that no-body smokes?

That's right! The cigarette smokes; the people are just the suckers! = ^..^ =

HISTORY

The Protestant Reformation: 2 'Luther's Childhood'

Martin Luther was born in 1483 in Germany to poor but hard working parents. At first his father worked as a woodcutter but later he moved to a mining town and had blast furnaces. Luther learned to work hard and be content with little. His father also had great respect for education and would often have learned men as guests. So Luther greatly desired to go to school and become educated.

His parents taught him to fear God and his father would pray out loud for his son, asking that his son would remember God and advance truth in the world. He was sent to school very young, his father carrying him to and from the teacher's home.

In those days children were treated very harshly. Poor Martin was one day beaten fifteen times by his teacher in one morning. His parents also often flogged him for the smallest offence. This harsh treatment made him very timid and afraid.

He was taught catechism some hymns and prayers and the Ten Commandments and learned Latin. He did not learn to love Jesus. The very name would cause the poor boy to turn pale from fright. He only saw Jesus and God as a cruel judge that he had to fear.

When he was sent to the higher schools, he had to beg his food from door to door. It was hard but he really wanted an education. Sometimes the students would have small groups and

sing in harmony at the doors of the homes, hoping to be given a little food. Later when he was almost ready to give up in despair, he was taken into the home of a generous man where for the first time he had a little comfort and enough to eat.

Going on to university, he earned a bachelor's degree then a master's and finally a PhD. He made a discovery in the library of the school. For the first time in his life he saw a Bible. He had heard and learned a few verses and had thought that was all the Bible there was, so he was amazed to see there were 66 books in it. He began to read it as much as he could.

Some of the seeds of truth began to be planted in his mind. His father wanted him to be a lawyer but Martin became more interested in religion until finally, seeking to find peace with God, he became an Augustinian monk when he was 21. His father was very angry about this. In his new life he was forced to work long hours at humble tasks and as well as this, he treated himself very harshly. He just could not seem to find peace with God no matter what he did. The Bible became more of a comfort to him as time went on.

In the convent he found a chained bible and read it as much as he could. Later he was given one of his own. Eventually he was ordained as a priest. He visited Rome and while there, he did all the acts recommended to earn favour with God. He really believed in these things, but could still find no peace in his heart when he thought about God. He was shocked to see all the wickedness at Rome among the church leaders.

One day he was climbing what they called 'Pilate's Staircase' on his knees as the church promised great blessings and forgiveness to anyone who did this. This staircase they claimed had been moved from Jerusalem to Rome by a miracle and people believed it. As he was crawling up, praying at every step, all of a sudden a Bible verse came into his mind; it was so loud it was like it was shouted to him.

"The just shall live by faith!"

Right then he realized that these works he was doing did not earn favour with God. Forgiveness was a gift of God!

Later he went to another university and earned another doctorate and was given the assignment of doctor of the scriptures. More and

more he preached from the Bible and people began to flock to hear him. At this time he still really believed in the Roman church but already his teachings from the Bible were beginning to wake up a lot of people. Some try to make people believe that Martin Luther was a simple, uneducated monk- but he was actually one of the best-educated men in Europe at that time. – To be continued. = ^ .. ^ =



TRUE-STORY-TIME

The Beast and the Bible

A tense silence reigned in the little cottage in Quebec. “Sir, you know the door by which you entered my house. Please take the same door and go away quickly!”

Pierre’s father, Charles, had studied in the Theological Seminary to prepare himself for the priesthood. A few days before taking his vows, however, he witnessed sickening iniquity in the high quarters of the church. He changed his mind, studied law, and became a notary. Not long after, he married a young woman named Renee and soon little Pierre was born.

At about 4 years of age, Pierre moved with his parents to a tiny settlement far to the north. No school had yet been established there, so young Pierre was privileged to have his own mother for his first teacher.

Before leaving the Seminary of Quebec, Charles had received from one of his superiors a beautiful French and Latin Bible. That Bible was the first book, after learning the A B C s, that Pierre learned to read. In this secluded little home school, Renee selected the chapters which she considered the most interesting for the young developing mind. Little Pierre read them every day with the greatest attention and pleasure. With no trivial, worldly amusements or exciting tele-

vision programs to distract him, he came to love the Bible. He so much enjoyed several of the chapters that he read them over and over until he knew them by heart.

By the age of eight or nine he had memorized the history of the creation and fall of man, the deluge, the sacrifice of Isaac, the history of Moses, the plagues of Egypt, the sublime hymn of Moses after crossing the Red Sea, the history of Samson, the most interesting events of the life of David, several psalms, all the speeches and parables of Christ, and the whole history of the sufferings and death of our Saviour as narrated by John.

Many precious hours were spent by his mother’s side reading to her the sublime pages of the divine book. Sometimes she interrupted to see if he understood what he read. When his answers made her sure that he understood, she would often kiss him and press him close to herself as an expression of her joy. How the angels must have loved to listen in to these happy, sacred occasions!

One day Pierre sat by his mother’s side reading to her of the sufferings of the Saviour. His young heart was so impressed that his voice trembled and he could hardly continue to speak. Renee, feeling his emotion, tried to say something about the love of Jesus for us, but she could not utter a word her voice was suffocated by her sobs. She leaned her head on Pierre’s forehead. The two wept together and their tears mingled on Pierre’s cheeks. The Holy Book fell from his hands, as he threw himself into his dear mother’s arms.

No human words can express what was felt in that most blessed hour! It was a never-to-be-forgotten hour. Two hearts were perfectly blended at the feet of a dying Saviour. There seemed to be a perfume from heaven in those mother’s tears which were flowing on her child. It seemed then that there was a celestial harmony in the sound of her voice and in her sobs. More than half a century later Pierre would still remember that solemn hour when Jesus, for the first time, revealed to him something of His suffering and of His love. His heart would leap with joy every time he thought of it.

Their home was several miles from the church, and the roads in rainy weather were very bad. The neighboring farmers, when unable to go to church, would gather at Pierre’s

home in the evening. Using a table for a platform, Pierre would often repeat the most beautiful parts of the Old and New Testaments. The breathless attention, the amens of the guests, and often the tears of joy which his mother tried in vain to conceal, supported, strengthened, and encouraged young Pierre as he spoke before so many people. When his parents saw that he was growing tired, Renee would sing some of the beautiful French hymns with which her memory was filled.

When the weather permitted, Pierre's family, along with the other farmers, would hitch up their buggies for the ride to church. Arriving early, the farmers would take Pierre into their buggies at the door of the temple and request him to recite some chapter of the Gospel. With rapt attention they listened to the sweet clear voice of the child, giving them the bread which comes from heaven. When the church bells rang, they expressed their regret that they could not hear more.

One beautiful spring day in 1818 an ominous event cast a shadow across the beautiful friendship Pierre had with his Saviour through the precious Word of God. Renee was singing one of her favorite hymns as she worked on the mending. Pierre was at the door, playing and talking to a robin which he had tamed. Suddenly he saw the priest coming near the gate. The sight of him sent an uneasiness through his whole frame. It was his first visit to Pierre's home.

Hastily Pierre ran to the door and whispered, "The Curate is coming!" The last sound was hardly out of his lips when the Rev. Mr. Courtois was at the door, and Charles, shaking hands with him, gave him a welcome.

The conversation was animated and interesting at first. It was a real pleasure to hear him. But suddenly his countenance changed. A dark cloud had come over his mind, and he stopped talking. The silence which followed was tense and strained. It looked like the heavy hour which precedes a storm. At last the priest addressed Charles. "Mr. Chiniquy," he said, "is it true that you and your child read the Bible?"

"Yes, sir," was the quick reply. "My little boy and I read the Bible, and what is still better, he has learned many of its most interesting chapters by heart. If you would enjoy it, Mr. Curate, he will repeat some of them for you."

"I did not come for that purpose," the priest replied abruptly. "But don't you know that you are forbidden by the holy Council of Trent to read the Bible in French?"

"It makes very little difference to me whether I read the Bible in French, Greek, or Latin," answered Charles, "for I understand these languages equally well."

"But are you ignorant of the fact that you cannot allow your child to read the Bible?" replied the priest.

"My wife directs her own child in the reading of the Bible, and I cannot see that we commit any sin by continuing to do in the future what we have done till now in that matter."

"Mr. Chiniquy," rejoined the priest, "you have gone through a whole course of theology. You know the duties of a curate. You know it is my painful duty to come here, get the Bible from you, and burn it."

It was too much for Charles to hear such a sentence in his own house. Quick as lightning he was on his feet. Pierre pressed himself, trembling, near his mother, who trembled also.

At first they feared that a violent scene would occur. Charles' anger at that moment was terrible. Then another fear gripped Pierre's heart. He feared lest the priest should lay his hands on the dear Bible, which was just before him on the table.

Fortunately, Charles subdued himself after the first moment of his anger. He paced the room with a quick step. His lips were pale and trembling. He was muttering between clenched teeth.

The priest closely watched all Charles' movements; his hands convulsively pressed his heavy cane, and his face gave the unmistakable evidence of terror. The pacing suddenly stopped. Charles faced the priest, and said, "Sir, is that all you have to say here?"

"Yes, sir," said the trembling priest.

"Well, sir," added Charles, "you know the door by which you entered my house. Please take the same door and go away quickly."

The priest left immediately. Inexpressible joy flooded over Pierre when he saw that his Bible was safe. He ran to his father's neck, kissed and thanked him for his victory. And to pay him, in his childish way, he jumped up on the large table and recited, in high style, the fight between David and Goliath. In Pierre's mind, his father was the hero like David, and the priest

was the giant whom the little stone from the brook had stricken down.

Years later Pierre would say, "Thou knowest, O God, that it is to that Bible, read on my mother's knees, that I owe the knowledge of the truth today." That Bible had sent to his young heart rays of light which all the sophisms and dark errors of a misguided priesthood could never completely extinguish. . = ^ .. ^ =

ADVENT HISTORY

ELLEN WHITE'S VISIONS & DREAMS: 9

Iceberg Ahead!

In 1904, Ellen White was shown a strange dream about a ship hitting an iceberg. She knew that this dream was warning that there were some very wrong ideas that people were trying to bring into the church. The dream showed her that God wanted the leaders of the church to speak out against this and not allow it to come into the church. This is the dream:

"One night a scene was clearly presented before me. A vessel was upon the waters, in a heavy fog. Suddenly the lookout cried, "Iceberg just ahead!" There, towering high above the ship, was a gigantic iceberg. An authoritative voice cried out, "Meet it!" There was not a moment's hesitation. It was a time for instant action. The engineer put on full steam, and the man at the wheel steered the ship straight into the iceberg.

"With a crash she struck the ice. There was a fearful shock, and the iceberg broke into many pieces, falling with a noise like thunder to the deck. The passengers were violently shaken by the force of the collisions, but no lives were lost. The vessel was injured, but not beyond repair. She rebounded from the contact, trembling from stem to stern, like a living creature. Then she moved forward on her way."

By the church 'striking' right away at the wrong ideas that men were bringing in, they were stopped from taking over the church.

It is interesting that when the great ship the 'Titanic' ran into the iceberg in 1915, if it would have hit it straight on like in this dream, it would not have been cut open and sunk. But when they tried to slow down and go around it, the side was cut open and the ship sunk.

This is like wrong habits and sin in our lives. If we meet it head on with the power of Jesus, we will overcome it. But if we try to find

a way around it; decide to wait and see what happens; or make excuses or compromises with it- sooner or later it will sink us. = ^ .. ^ =

BUILDING FOR JESUS

Honey or Vinegar

The preacher placed two identical jars on the table next to the pulpit. He quoted I Samuel 16:7, and said "The Lord does not look at the things man looks at. Man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart."

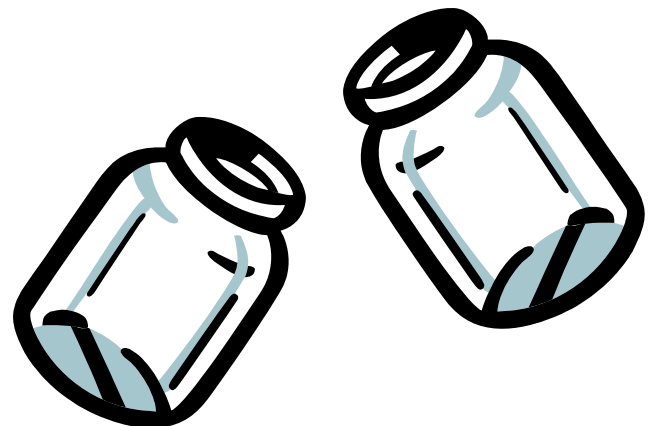
These jars came from the same factory, were made of the same materials, and can hold the same amount. But they are different, he explained. Then he upset one and it oozed out honey. He turned over the other, and vinegar spilled out.

"When a jar is upset, whatever is in it comes out. Until the jars were upset, they looked alike. The difference lay within, and could not be seen. When they were upset, their contents were revealed."

Until we are upset we put on a good front. But when we are upset, we reveal our innermost thoughts and attitudes, for "out of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaks" (Luke 6:45).

What if someone tipped you over today? What would flow out? Would you reveal the "honey" of grace and patience, or the "vinegar" of anger and sarcasm? "Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins" (I Peter 4:8).

Have a terrific day knowing that the one who upsets you may be just needing some honey. = ^ .. ^ =





Year 1: 3rd Quarter:
“DANIEL, THE PROPHET”
WEEKLY BIBLE LESSON 5: “BABYLON
FALLS”

For our Bible lessons we are going to use the King James Version of the Bible. Just like the boys and girls used to use to learn to read from in the pioneer days.

There will be some texts to look up for each day and you should practice your memory verse until you can say it without looking. Don't forget to learn the text too.

MEMORY VERSE: “Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall.” Proverbs 16:18.

Read the story in Daniel 5.

Sunday

Text: Daniel 5:1 “Belshazzar the king made a great feast to a thousand of his lords, and drank wine before the thousand.”

The wonderful lessons that God had taught to Nebuchadnezzar resulted in his spending the rest of his days worshipping the true God and being a good and merciful king to his people. He died in 561 B.C., and was succeeded by his son Evil-merodach, who reigned only two years. Nabonadius, who became king in 555 B.C., shared the royal power with his son, Belshazzar. Nabonadius was away at war and the young king Belshazzar, was left to manage the great city of Babylon.

But although his grandson Belshazzar knew all about the happenings in the life of Nebuchadnezzar, it made no impression on his pride. Under his foolish rule, mighty Babylon, built at so great an effort by his fathers, was

soon to fall.

It may be that Belshazzar, growing up when the kingdom was already conquered, surrounded by luxury, did not have to learn to work hard or to control his self. Maybe he was a spoilt child. Whatever the reason, he ended up being known as one of the most foolish kings in history.

In this story we again see the ‘Watcher and the Holy One’ that Nebuchadnezzar trembled before in his dream. But for him there had been a second chance. Belshazzar would have no second chance. Why? Because he KNEW BETTER!

God expects us to learn the lessons of the Bible, history, and even what our parents and grandparents have learned in their experience. When Nebuchadnezzar was king he did not know any better than to be just like all the heathen kings, and God gave him lesson after lesson until he got the point.

Belshazzar knew Nebuchadnezzar, and he no doubt even told Belshazzar as a child, his stories about the True God and what He had taught him. He knew about the Watcher and Holy One. But he refused to obey God and just wanted to live for parties and fun!

Thought - It is important to learn the lessons God makes available to us in our childhood and youth. There is not always a second chance!

Monday

Text: Isaiah 45:1 “Thus saith the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have holden, to subdue nations before him; and I will loose the loins of kings, to open before him the two leaved gates; and the gates shall not be shut.”

Here is an amazing fact of the Bible that shows us that God is real! The prophet Isaiah wrote this prediction hundreds of years before Cyrus was born and told just how the city of Babylon would be captured.

There are some interesting things about the great city. It had been made in such a way that it could not be captured; at least it looked that way to man. The great walls were so thick that two chariots could race side by side on the top. They could never be knocked down.

They had huge storehouses full of carefully preserved food, enough for twenty years! The Euphrates River flowed through the city to provide water and had special gates so that no one

could sneak in through the river. These are the 'two leaved gates' that the Lord describes in the prophecy.

Now Cyrus and his general were very clever. They pretended to lay siege to the city and they had soldiers camp where they could be seen from the walls of Babylon. These soldiers lounged around and didn't seem very serious about anything. This made the young and foolish king, Belshazzar very bold.

History tells us they even threw food out over the walls to show the soldiers they were not at all worried. Oh how silly man can be!

Thought - Babylon was like the 'unsinkable' Titanic that is out there off Newfoundland, on the bottom of the ocean.

Tuesday

Text: Proverbs 29:1 "He, that being often reproved hardeneth his neck, shall suddenly be destroyed, and that without remedy."

Here we continue to see this foolish young king heading for destruction. An army is camped outside the walls determined to conquer the city and the king is so cocky that he decides to throw a huge party! He invites a thousand important people and all the pretty ladies. He is so sure that he is safe, that he just wants to 'celebrate'!

Wine flows like water; rich food is heaped on the tables. Nothing is lacking in the Music and entertainment, nothing except truth and godliness! Then if all this were not enough wickedness, Belshazzar, drunk with wine, decides to show off even more!

He decides to prove once and for all that his grandfather's 'True God' is nothing! Maybe some of the older nobles had reminded him that Nebuchadnezzar's dream showed that Babylon WOULD fall, we don't know but here's what he did;

"Belshazzar, while he tasted the wine, commanded to bring the golden and silver vessels which his father Nebuchadnezzar had taken out of the temple which was in Jerusalem; that the king, and his princes, his wives, and his concubines, might drink therein." Daniel 5:2

The sacred vessels from the temple of God are brought and alcohol poured into them and they drank out of them, laughing and joking about the 'True God' of the Jews.

Thought - Young people tend to be reck-

less. God warns; "Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to thy word." Psalms 119:9

Wednesday

Text: 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."

Just imagine the scene; everybody drunk and whooping it up; Foolishness and wickedness everywhere in the huge banquet hall; Music and noise and loud laughter; then suddenly somebody screams! Quickly the noise dies down, the musicians stop playing; all eyes turn to the site of a shining, bloodless hand, writing high up on the wall where all can see. The words it writes shine like fire!

"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." Daniel 5:6

Remember what Isaiah foretold about the 'loins of kings'? The young king, minutes before so bold, was pale and trembling, he well may even have wet himself. He screams out for someone to read the words and tell him what it all means; but no one can.

Quickly the word goes through the palace until someone tells the old Queen, either Belshazzar's mother, or more likely his grandmother. She comes and tells the terrified king, who doesn't look so smart now, that he'd better send for Daniel who could read the writing for him.

Now Daniel had not been Belshazzar's right hand man as he had been for Nebuchadnezzar. The foolish king, so determined to do things his own way, had no desire to have godly people around him. But now he sends word for Daniel to come right away.

Thought - When people seem to be so bold and sure of themselves, it doesn't take much to change all that.

Thursday

Text: Daniel 5:16,17 "And I have heard of thee, that thou canst make interpretations, and dissolve doubts: now if thou canst read the writing,

and make known to me the interpretation thereof, thou shalt be clothed with scarlet, and have a chain of gold about thy neck, and shalt be the third ruler in the kingdom. Then Daniel answered and said before the king, Let thy gifts be to thyself, and give thy rewards to another; yet I will read the writing unto the king, and make known to him the interpretation."

Daniel wasn't impressed by the promises of rich rewards. He told the wicked king to keep them for himself. But he would read the writing and tell him what it meant. Thus Daniel, representing the living God, was brought before this foolish ruler to declare his doom.

It is interesting that for many years no one knew why Belshazzar only said 'third ruler' in the kingdom. Then when they found clay tablets and seals they learned that Belshazzar was second ruler, as his father was still also king.

Before Daniel reads the writing, he tells Belshazzar just what he should have remembered and never forgotten. He tells him all about the things that happened to his grandfather. He tells him that he should have known better than to do what he had done.

Then he begins to read. "Mene, Mene, Tekel, Upharsin or Peres."

Mene- God has numbered and finished your kingdom.

Tekel- You are weighed in the balances and found wanting. (not right with God)

Peres- Your kingdom is divided and give to the Medes and Persians.

"Then commanded Belshazzar, and they clothed Daniel with scarlet, and put a chain of gold about his neck, and made a proclamation concerning him, that he should be the third ruler in the kingdom." Daniel 5:29

Under the circumstances, it seemed kind of useless to make Daniel third ruler in a kingdom whose doom he had just announced. But I think God had a reason for this. Because Daniel was then made a ruler, the new king would get to meet him. Where if this had not happened, he may not. God takes care of His children who are faithful to Him!

Thought - For every person on earth there comes a time when they are 'weighed in the balances.' May we always be 'right with God'!

Friday

Text: Daniel 5:30 "In that night was Belshazzar the king of the Chaldeans slain."

While the enemy soldiers were camping outside of Babylon where they could be seen from the city, most of them were working on a big project where they could not be seen from the city. They were digging a channel to turn the great river out of its bed. They finished this while Belshazzar had his big party. Then the army marched towards the city in the riverbed.

The way Babylon was constructed, there was no way to get in through the riverbed; an army would simply march through and out the other side and still not enter into the city itself— unless— the special 'two leaved gates' were left open. This is just what God had predicted and just what happened. Maybe it was because a lot of the wine that was supposed to be for the King's party, ended up being drunk by the guards and watchmen, we don't know, but the gates were left unlocked and the enemy soldiers swarmed into the city from the now empty riverbed.

Just a short time after Daniel pronounced the sentence of God on the wicked and foolish king; the soldiers entered the banquet hall and killed Belshazzar.

'You may plan for merely selfish good, you may gather together treasure, you may build mansions great and high, as did the builders of ancient Babylon; but you cannot build wall so high or gate so strong as to shut out the messengers of doom. Belshazzar the king "feasted in his palace," and "praised the gods of gold, and of silver, of brass, of iron, of wood, and of stone." But the hand of One invisible wrote upon his walls the words of doom, and the tread of hostile armies was heard at his palace gates. "In that night was Belshazzar the king of the Chaldeans slain," and an alien monarch sat upon the throne. (Dan. 5:30) To live for self is to perish. Covetousness, the desire of benefit for self's sake, cuts the soul off from life. It is the spirit of Satan to get, to draw to self. It is the spirit of Christ to give, to sacrifice self for the good of others.' Christ's Object Lessons, page 258.

Thought - God made Nebuchadnezzar to become a beast for a while, but Belshazzar made a beast out of himself. = ^ .. ^ =