

***God has no Grandchildren***  
***The sad end of Nebuchadnezzar's Mighty Kingdom***  
**Daniel 5**

**Setting the stage:** Nabopolassar was the first king of Babylon – where he ruled from 626-605BC. His son, **Nebuchadnezzar II** ruled for 43 years, 605-562 BC. Daniel chs 1-4 occur during his reign, chapter 4 records how Nebuchadnezzar came to faith in the one true, living God. When he died, his son, **Amel-Marduk** became king. But he was assassinated by his brother in law **Nergal-sar-ezer**, 560! On his death his son Labashi-Marduk became king and was assassinated, all in 556, by a group that included the commoner **Nabonidus**, who the group appointed king. **Nabonidus was the first archaeologist**, and ended up retiring to Tema in Arabia and placed his son, **Belshar-usus (Belshazzar-Daniel ch 5)** as viceroy to rule in his stead. Belshazzar was killed by Persian special forces October 19, 539 -See Daniel 5:30. *Thus, Nebuchadnezzar's glorious golden-headed Babylonian empire lasted a mere 87 years!* It was replaced by the silver chest and arms of the Medo-Persians.

V1-4 Who was outside the city? \_\_\_\_\_

Why do you think Belshazzar brought out the Jerusalem temple implements rather than those of any of the other gods? \_\_\_\_\_

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v5-6 The hand of judgment

v7-9 The usual confusion of paganism

v10-12 The voice of age and experience speaks

v13-16 The royal demand and promise of reward

v17-24 The charge of ministerial malfeasance

v25-28 The interpretation and judgment of the writing

v30 The fall of the ax

v31 Two weeks later, prophesy fulfilled

