

**“THRIVING IN TRYING TIMES” Series**

Message #5 of 6

**“When The Writing Is On The Wall”**

***When it becomes clear that your life is not working out for you,  
turn your life over to the One who is working it out for you.***

Daniel 5:1-12 / August 5, 2018

Handwriting on the Wall = When something is made clear, usually something bad, that would be foolish to ignore.

**1. GET RID OF YOUR IDOLS –**

*“So they brought in the gold goblets that had been taken from the temple of God in Jerusalem, and ... as they drank (from them), they praised the gods of gold and silver, of bronze, iron, wood and stone.” – v.3-4*

“What is an idol? It is anything that absorbs your heart and imagination more than God, anything you seek to give you what only God can give.” – Timothy Keller

- “As in the days of Noah ... people were eating and drinking ... knowing nothing about what would happen.” – Matthew 24:37-39
- “I hate those who cling to worthless idols; I trust in the Lord.” – Psalm 31:6

**2. LOOK FOR GOD –**

*“Suddenly the fingers of a human hand appeared and wrote on the plaster of the wall, near the lampstand in the royal palace.” – v.5*

- “Everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock.” – Matthew 7:24
- “The LORD’S pleasure is not in the strength of the horse, nor his delight in the legs of a man; the LORD delights in those who fear him, who put their hope in his unfailing love.” – Psalm 147:10-11

**3. REACH OUT FOR GODLY COUNSEL –**

*“There is a man in your kingdom who has the spirit of the holy gods in him.” – v.11a*

- “Where is the wise man? Where is the scholar? Where is the philosopher of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world?” – 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 1:20

**4. REMEMBER THE PAST –**

*“O King, the Most High God gave your father Nebuchadnezzar sovereignty and greatness and glory and splendor. But when his heart became arrogant and hardened with pride, he was deposed from his royal throne and stripped of his glory.” – v.18, 20*

“The idolatry that exists in man's heart always wants to lead him away from his Savior and God's grace, and back to self-reliance, no matter how pitiful that self-reliance is or how many times it has betrayed him.” ~ Matt Chandler

- “The Lord preserves the faithful, but the proud he pays back in full.” – Psalm 31:23b

**5. HONOR GOD –**

*“But you did not honor the God who holds in his hand your life and all your ways.” – v.23*

- “Although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened.” – Romans 1:21

**6. ASK FOR MERCY –**

*“You have been weighed on the scales and found wanting.” – v.27*

- “Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.” – Hebrews 4:16