

Lesson I.

DANIEL AND BELSHAZZAR

October 1, 1905

Daniel 5 : 17-30. Study the chapter—Memory Verses 29, 30.*

Golden Text—The face of the Lord is against them that do evil.—Psalm 34 : 16.

it whomsoever he will. 22. And thou his son, O Belshaz'zar, hast not humbled thine heart, though thou knewest all this :

23 But hast lifted up thyself against the Lord of heaven ; and they have brought the vessels of his house before thee, and thou, and thy lords, thy wives, and thy concubines, have drunk wine in them ; and thou hast praised the gods of silver, and gold, of brass, iron, wood, and stone, which see not, nor hear, nor know : and the God in whose hand thy breath is, and whose are all thy ways, hast thou not glorified : 24 Then was the part of the hand sent from him ; and this writing was written. 25 And this is the writing that was written, ME'NE, ME'NE, TE'KEL, UPHAR'SIN. 26 This is the interpretation of the thing : ME'NE ; God hath numbered thy kingdom, and finished it. 27 TE'KEL ; Thou art weighed in the balances, and art found wanting. 28 PE'RES ; Thy kingdom is divided, and given to the Medes and Persians. 29 Then commanded Belshaz'zar, and they clothed Dan'iel 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. 30 In that night was Belshaz'zar the king of the Chalde'ans slain.

THE LESSON RETOLD

Under Nebuchadnezzar, king of the Chaldees, Babylon became one of the most beautiful and magnificent cities of ancient times. But Nebuchadnezzar, instead of honoring and obeying the Lord God of heaven, who had given him such great glory and riches, behaved himself foolishly and set his face proudly against his Maker, so the Lord drove him from his kingdom and punished him with a terrible punishment for seven years.

Another king was now reigning in Babylon. Belshazzar, his son, the crown prince, made a great feast in his palace to a thousand

of his chief men, whom he invited to drink wine with him out of the holy gold and silver vessels which Nebuchadnezzar had taken from the temple in Jerusalem, the banqueting chamber being lighted with the sacred candlesticks also taken from God's house.

Suddenly, as Belshazzar and his friends were drinking and feasting and singing praises to their heathen gods, a hand appeared on the wall opposite the golden candlesticks, and in full view of the king and his guests, wrote upon the wall these strange words : "MENE, MENE, TEKEL, UPHARSIN " ; at the

*The Scripture Memory Passages of the Supplemental Lesson Course are recommended as a substitute for those here given Sabbath by Sabbath. They will be found in the Supplemental Lesson Leaflets.