

35. Nebuchadnezzar and Belshazzar

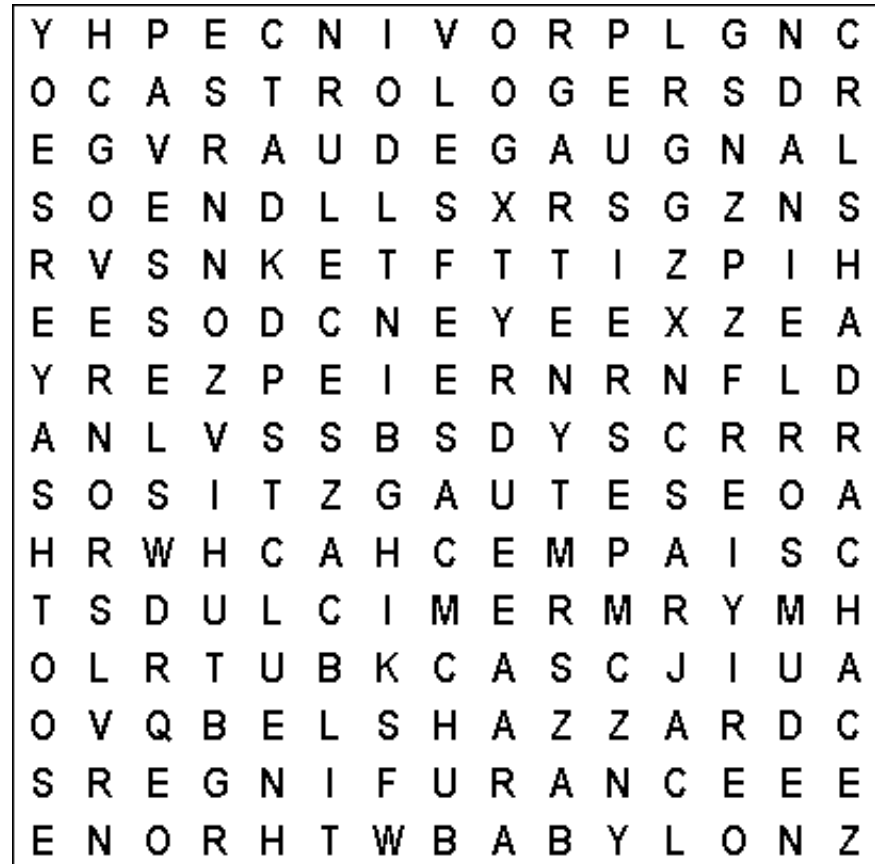
In the third year of the reign of Jehoiakim king of Judah came Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon unto Jerusalem, and besieged it. ... second year of the reign of Nebuchadnezzar ... dreamed dreams ... Daniel ... said, The secret ... cannot the wise men, the astrologers, the magicians, the soothsayers, shew unto the king; ... God in heaven that revealeth secrets, and maketh known to the king Nebuchadnezzar ... Then ... Nebuchadnezzar fell upon his face, and worshipped Daniel ... Of a truth it is, that your God is a God of gods, and a Lord of kings ... Then the king made Daniel a great man ... ruler over the whole province of Babylon, and chief of the governors over all the wise men of Babylon.

... certain Chaldeans ... accused the Jews ... O king, hast made a decree, that every man that shall hear the sound of the cornet, flute, harp, sackbut, psaltery, and dulcimer, and all kinds of musick, shall fall down and worship the golden image ... whoso falleth not down and worshippeth ... should be cast into the midst of a burning fiery furnace ... Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego ... have not regarded thee ... Nebuchadnezzar the king was astonished ...

... Lo, I see four men loose, walking in the midst of the fire, and they have no hurt; and the form of the fourth is like the Son of God ... Then Nebuchadnezzar came near to the mouth of the burning fiery furnace ... Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, came forth of the midst of the fire.

... the fire had no power, nor was an hair of their head singed, neither were their coats changed, nor the smell of fire had passed on them ... Nebuchadnezzar ... said, Blessed be the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, who hath sent his angel, and delivered his servants that trusted in him, and have changed the king's word ... Therefore I make a decree ... every people, nation, and language, which speak any thing amiss against the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, shall be cut in pieces, and their houses shall be made a dunghill: because there is no other God that can deliver after this sort. (Daniel 1:1; 2:1, 27-28, 46-48; 3:8-12,24-30 KJV)

Belshazzar ... 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 ... They drank ... In the same hour came forth fingers of a man's hand, and wrote over ... the plaster of the wall ... Belshazzar ... hast not humbled thine heart, though thou knewest all this ... In that night was Belshazzar ... slain ... his mind hardened in pride, he was deposed from his kingly throne ... But hast lifted up thyself against the Lord of heaven ... (Daniel 5:2-5, 17-23, 30-31 KJV)



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