

DANIEL

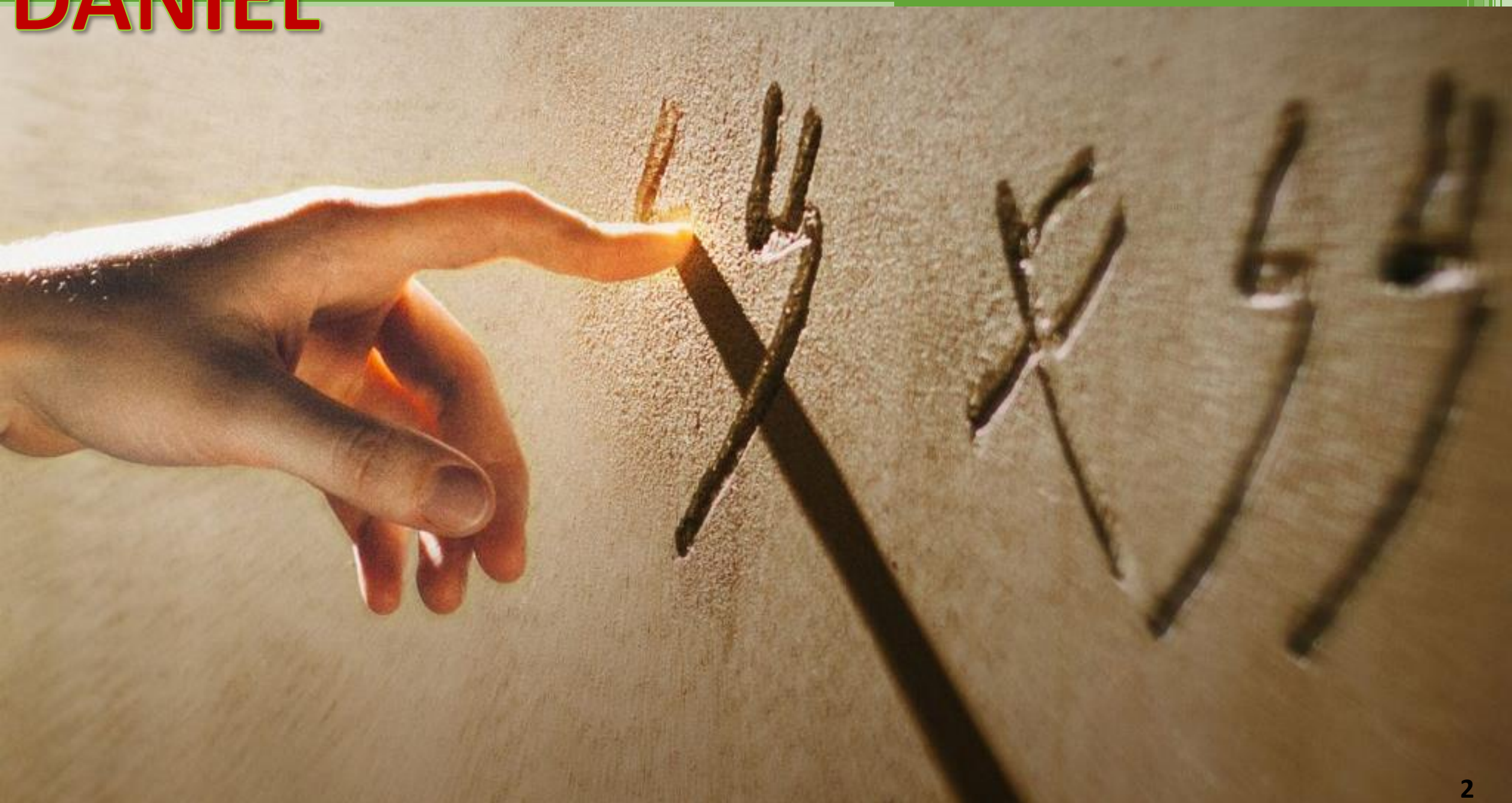
HIS ENTIRE
PROPHECY

CHAPTER FIVE

The Writing on the Wall



The
FBI CLASS



1 Belshazzar the king made a great feast to a thousand of his lords, and drank wine before the thousand.

WHERE ARE WE IN THE CHRONOLOGY?

- 605 BC: NEBUCHADNEZZAR BECOMES KING
- 562 BC: NEBUCHADNEZZAR DIES, RULED 43 YEARS
 - EVIL MERODACH, 2 YR
 - NERIGLASSAR, 4 YR
 - LABASHI-MARDUK, 3-9 MO
- NABONIDUS IS KING. BELSHAZZAR IS HIS SON
- 539 BC: BABYLON FALLS TO CYRUS THE GREAT

2 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.

3 Then they brought the golden vessels that were taken out of the temple of the house of God which was at Jerusalem; and the king, and his princes, his wives, and his concubines, drank in them.

4 They drank wine, and praised the gods of gold, and of silver, of brass, of iron, of wood, and of stone.

CYRUS HAS ALREADY CONQUERED ALL OF THE
KINGDOM OF BABYLON EXCEPT THE CITY ITSELF.

NABONIDUS HIMSELF WAS DEFEATED TRYING TO
FIGHT AGAINST CYRUS.

Let's Party!

**BABYLON WAS WELL-STOCKED, AND SURROUNDED
BY THE STRONGEST WALLS OF ANY CITY ON EARTH.**

BELSHAZZAR FELT SECURE!



Let's Party!

THE HISTORIANS HERODOTUS AND XENOPHON
BOTH RECORD THAT THERE WAS A BIG FEAST IN
PROGRESS THE NIGHT BABYLON WAS CONQUERED.

Let's Party!

WHY THE FEAST? NOT SURE...

WHAT'S IMPORTANT IS
WHAT BELSHAZZAR DOES NEXT.

“They brought the golden vessels that were taken out of the temple of the house of God...”

V3

“They drank wine, and praised the gods of gold, and of silver, of brass, of iron, of wood, and of stone.”

V4

BELSHAZZAR KNEW WHAT HE WAS DOING.

**THIS WAS HIM SHOWING HIS CONTEMPT FOR THE
GOD THAT NEBUCHADNEZZAR HAD HONORED IN
THE LAST CHAPTER.**

**WE WILL SEE LATER THAT DANIEL TELLS US THAT
BELSHAZZAR KNEW EVERYTHING THAT HAPPENED
TO NEBUCHADNEZZAR AND ABOUT HOW AND WHY
GOD HUMBLLED HIM.**

**NEBUCHADNEZZAR MADE SURE EVERYONE KNEW IT
WHEN HE PUBLISHED A TRACT THAT WENT OUT TO
THE ENTIRE WORLD GLORIFYING GOD.**

**ANOTHER FACTOR WAS THAT NABONIDUS WAS
DEVOTED TO THE MOON GOD “SIN.”**

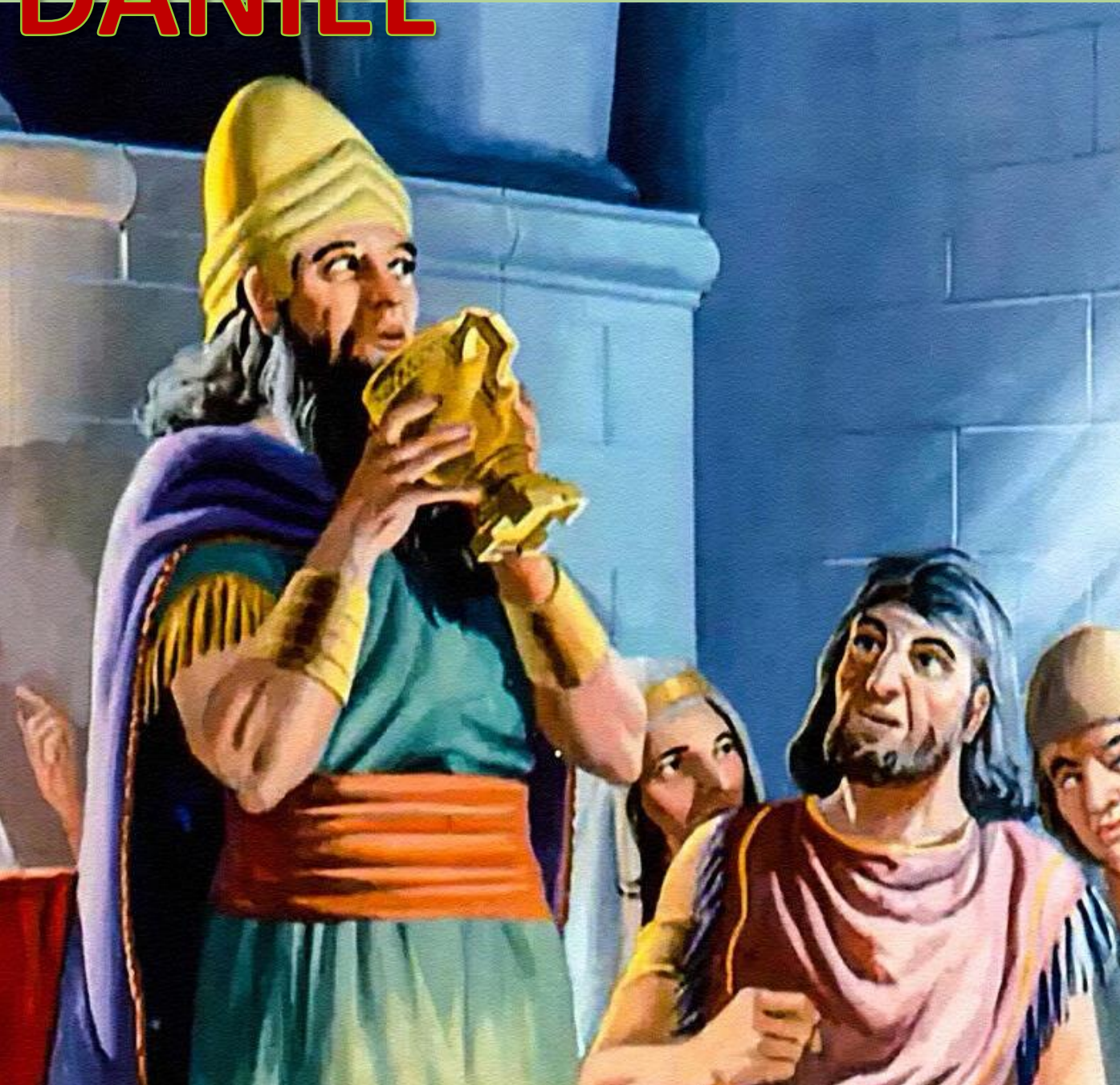
**MAYBE THIS WAS ABOUT HONORING “HER”, AND
DESPISING OTHER STRONG GODS.**

FRIGHT NIGHT

BELSHAZZAR'S PARTY NIGHT IS ABOUT TO TAKE A
TURN FOR THE WORST.

5 In the same hour came forth fingers of a man's hand, and wrote over against the candlestick upon the plaster of the wall of the king's palace: and the king saw the part of the hand that wrote.





6 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.



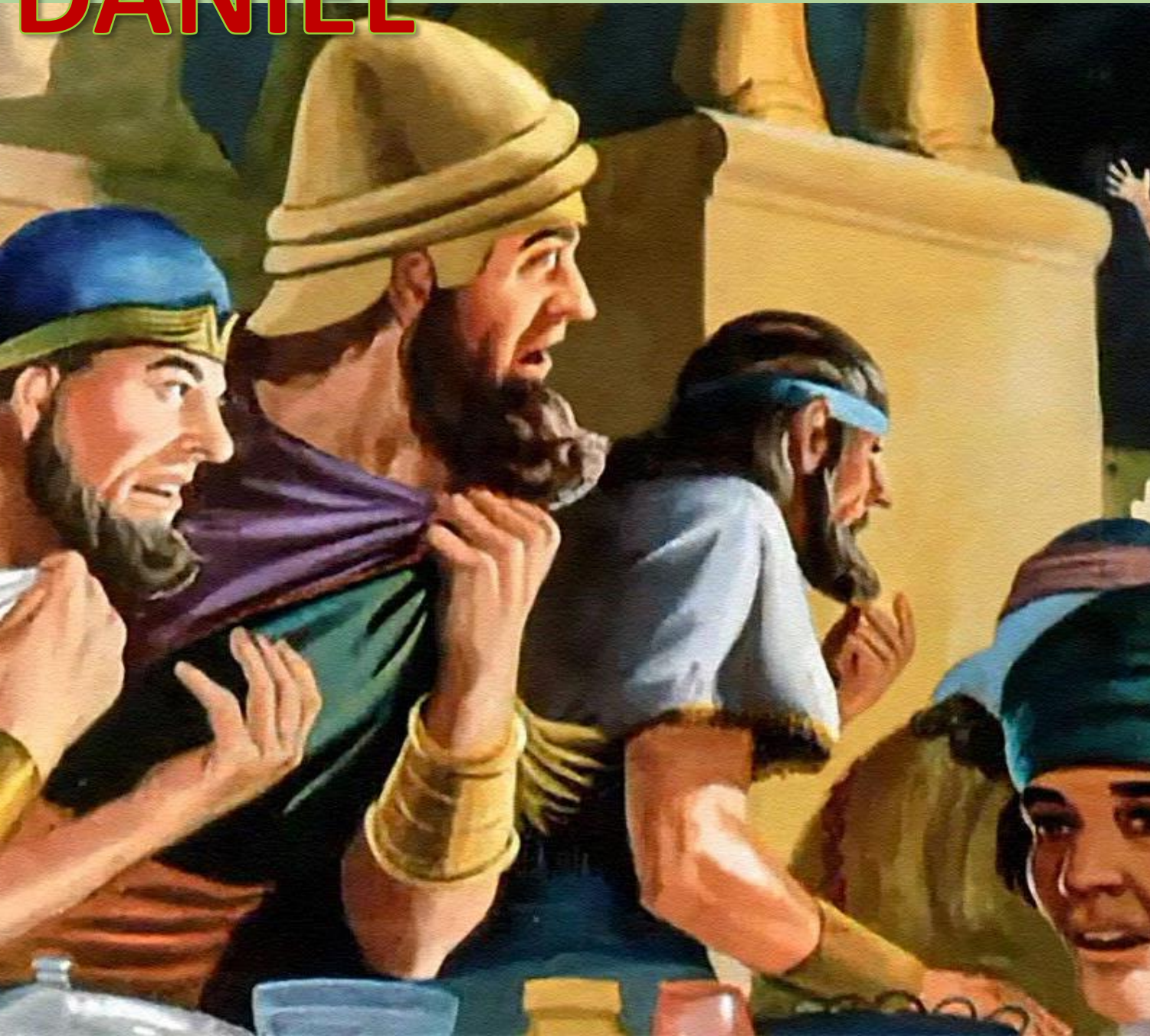
6 Then the king's countenance was changed, and his thoughts troubled him, so that the joints of his loins were loosed, **and his knees smote one against another.**



7 The king cried aloud to bring in the astrologers, the Chaldeans, and the soothsayers. And the king spake, and said to the wise men of Babylon, Whosoever shall read this writing, and shew me the interpretation thereof, shall be clothed with scarlet, and have a chain of gold about his neck, and shall be the third ruler in the kingdom.

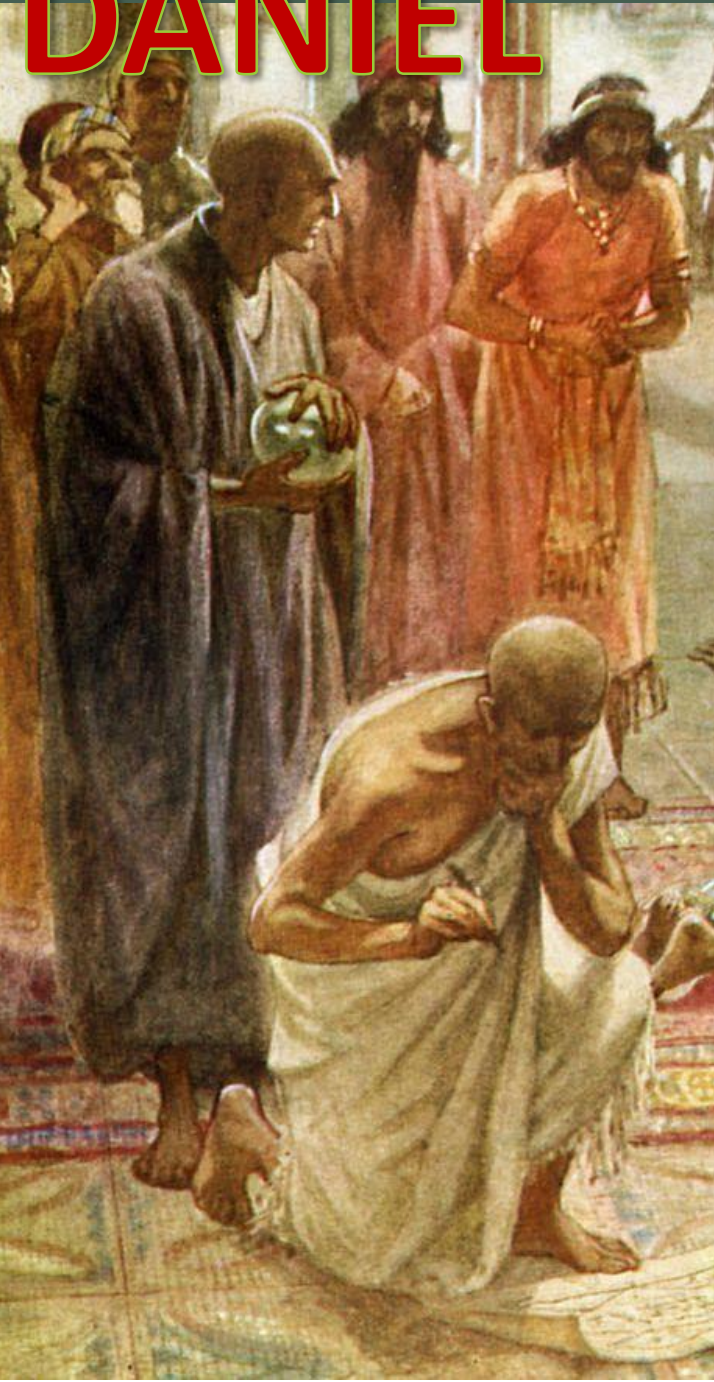
8 Then came in all the king's wise men: but they could not read the writing, nor make known to the king the interpretation thereof.

9 Then was king Belshazzar greatly troubled, and his countenance was changed in him, and his lords were astonished.



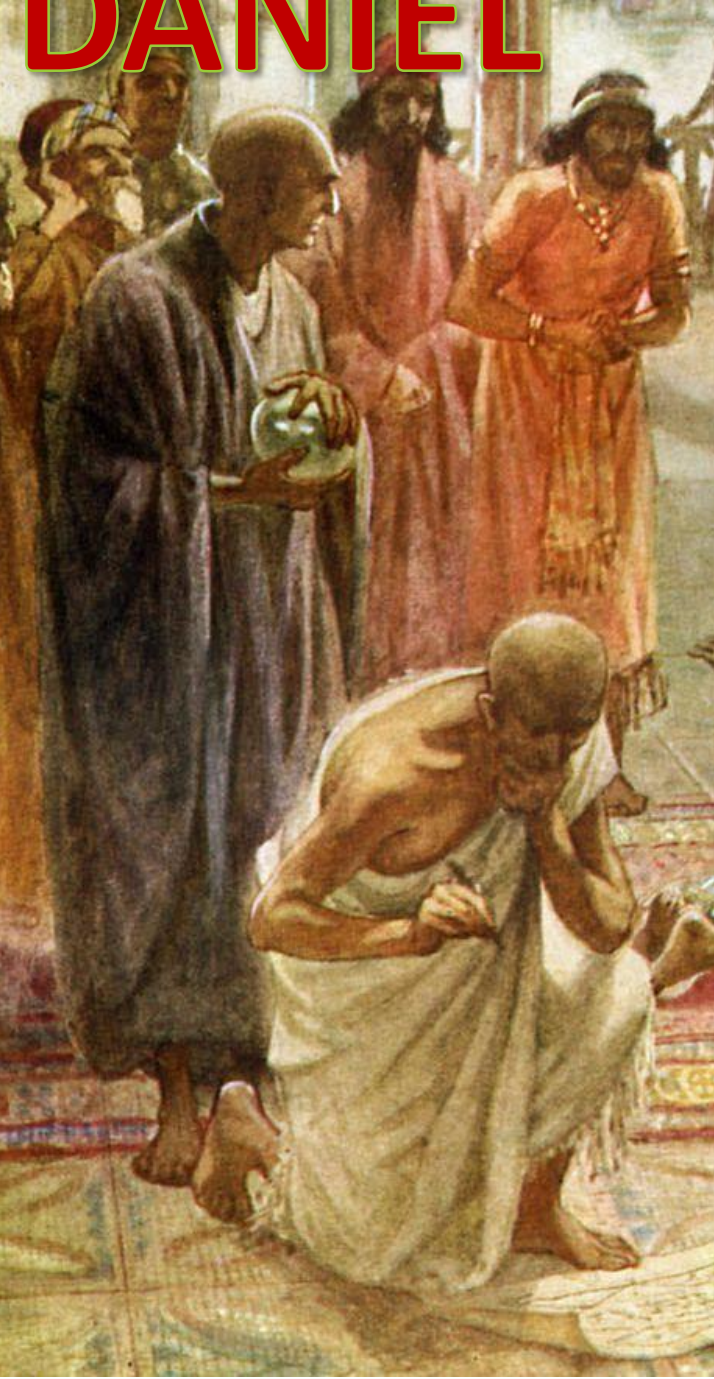
**7 The king cried
aloud to bring in
the astrologers...**

**He was screaming
for help!**



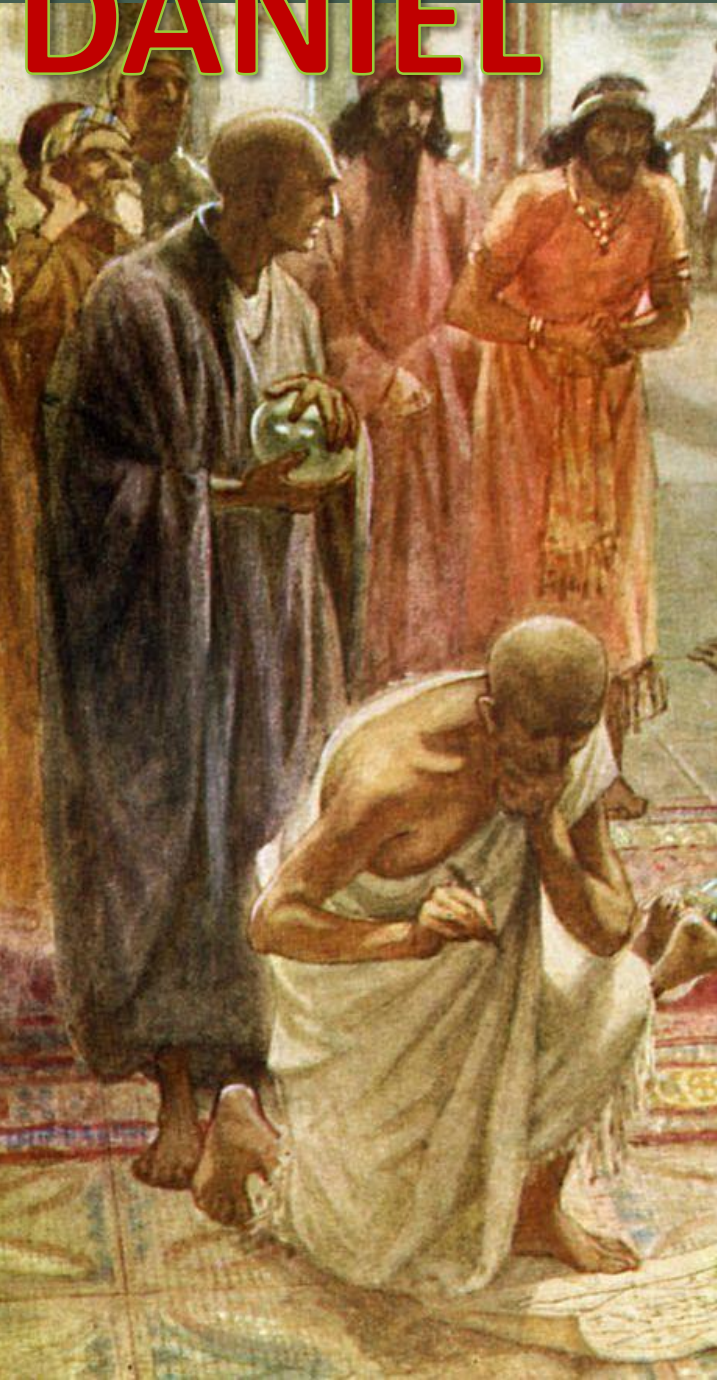
So the same old crowd of
“wise men” and astologers
shows up.

They’re not going to be any help.

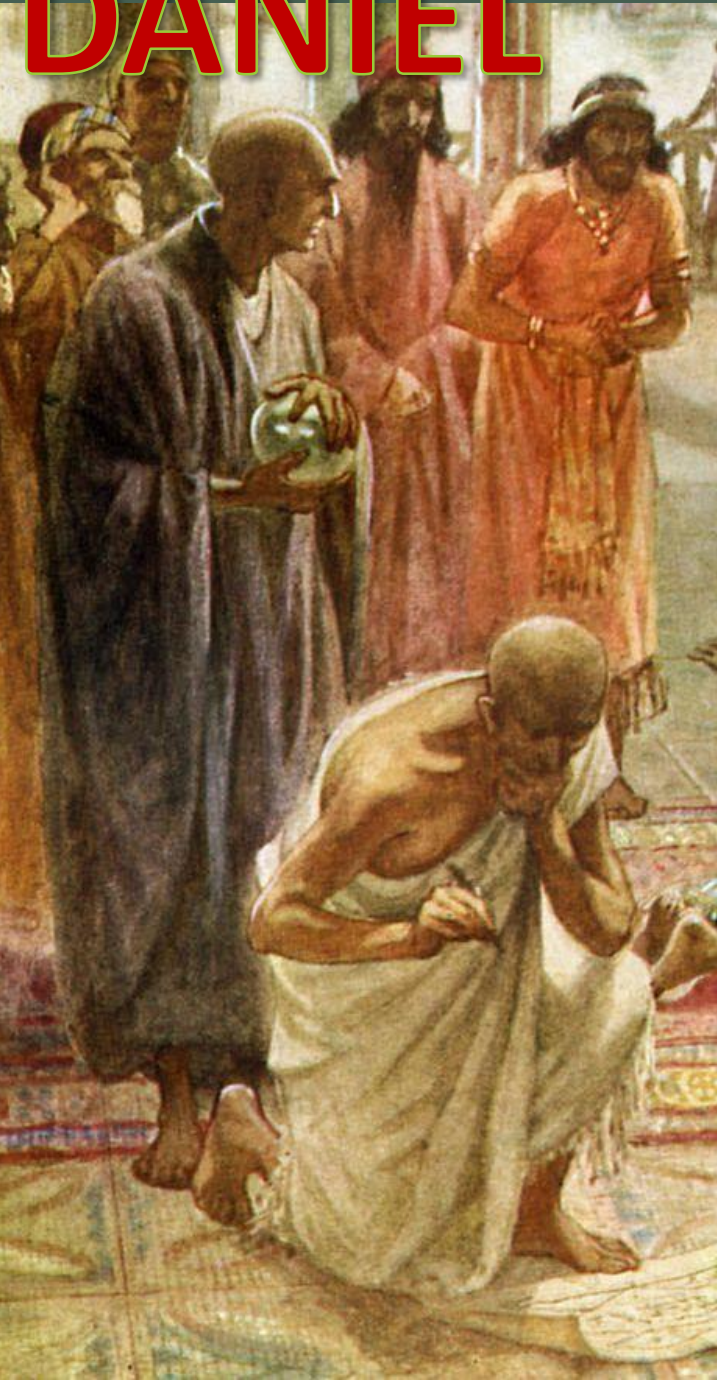


-- INTERESTING FACT --

Archeologists have discovered a large room in Babylon in the king's court that is very likely to be this actual room. It is big enough, it has plaster walls (as verse 5 says), and it is in the right place.



“Archeologist Robert Koldewey, who found the Ishtar gate and other great finds in Babylon, said: “It is so clearly marked out for this purpose [as a throne-room] that no reasonable doubt can be felt as to its having been used as their principal audience chamber.”



“If anyone should desire to localize the scene of Belshazzar’s eventful banquet, he can surely place it with complete accuracy in this immense room.”



**BELSHAZZAR NEEDS
SOME HELP.**

WHO YOU GONNA CALL?

THE QUEEN!



10 Now the queen, by reason of the words of the king and his lords, came into the banquet house: and the queen spake and said, O king, live for ever: let not thy thoughts trouble thee, nor let thy countenance be changed:



11 There is a man in thy kingdom, in whom is the spirit of the holy gods; and in the days of thy father light and understanding and wisdom, like the wisdom of the gods, was found in him; whom the king Nebuchadnezzar thy father, the king, I say, thy father, made master of the magicians, astrologers, Chaldeans, and soothsayers;



12 Forasmuch as an excellent spirit, and knowledge, and understanding, interpreting of dreams, and shewing of hard sentences, and dissolving of doubts, were found in the same Daniel, whom the king named Belteshazzar: now let Daniel be called, and he will shew the interpretation.

WHEN THE QUEEN SAYS,

“in whom is the spirit of the holy gods; and in the days of thy father light and understanding and wisdom, like the wisdom of the gods,”

WE KNOW SHE’S SOMEONE WHO KNOWS AND RESPECTS DANIEL.





**WE SHOULD ALL BE SALT AND LIGHT
TO THE WORLD.**

**WE SHOULD MAKE IT OUR GOAL
AND MINISTRY TO DO SO.**

**SHE SAYS THAT NEBUCHADNEZZAR
HAD MADE DANIEL
MASTER OF THE MAGICIANS.**

HE EVIDENTLY WAS NOT AT THIS TIME.

**RETIRED? FIRED?
WE DON'T KNOW.**



HERE'S WHAT WE KNOW:

BELSHAZZAR WAS ANTI-GOD.

NOT ANTI-MARDUK,
NOT ANTI-SIN,
NOT ANTI-BEL...

BUT DEFINITELY ANTI "THE TRUE GOD."

**SO, DANIEL, NOW AN OLD MAN,
IS BROUGHT IN BEFORE THIS WICKED KING.**

**REMEMBER HIS RESPECTFUL WORDS
TO KING NEBUCHADNEZZAR?**

SEE THE DIFFERENCE IN HIS LANGUAGE NOW.

13 Then was Daniel brought in before the king. And the king spake and said unto Daniel, Art thou that Daniel, which art of the children of the captivity of Judah, whom the king my father brought out of Jewry?

14 I have even heard of thee, that the spirit of the gods is in thee, and that light and understanding and excellent wisdom is found in thee.

15 And now the wise men, the astrologers, have been brought in before me, that they should read this writing, and make known unto me the interpretation thereof: but they could not shew the interpretation of the thing:

16 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.**

NOTICE – HE REFERS TO DANIEL AS A JEW.

**HE IS NO DOUBT CONSCIOUS OF THE FACT THAT HE
HAS BEEN BLASPHEMING THE GOD OF THE JEWS,
AND KNOWS HE IS IN BIG, BIG TROUBLE.**

ALSO, KIND OF FUNNY, BELSHAZZAR SAYS,

“And I have heard of thee...”

MAYBE HE REALLY MEANS,

“I heard of you a few minutes ago!”

BELSHAZZAR TELLS DANIEL THAT HE'LL MAKE HIM

THIRD RULER IN THE KINGDOM!

POWER! PRESTIGE! RESPECT! MONEY!

DANIEL

CHAPTER FIVE



**GUYS, HAS YOUR
WIFE HAS EVER
GIVEN YOU THIS
LOOK?
THEN YOU KNOW.**

DANIEL

CHAPTER FIVE



**DANIEL IS
UNIMPRESSED.**

**GUYS, HAS YOUR
WIFE HAS EVER
GIVEN YOU THIS
LOOK?
THEN YOU KNOW.**

17 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.



PARAPHRASING . . .

- **GIFTS? KEEP THEM.
YOU'LL NEED THEM.**



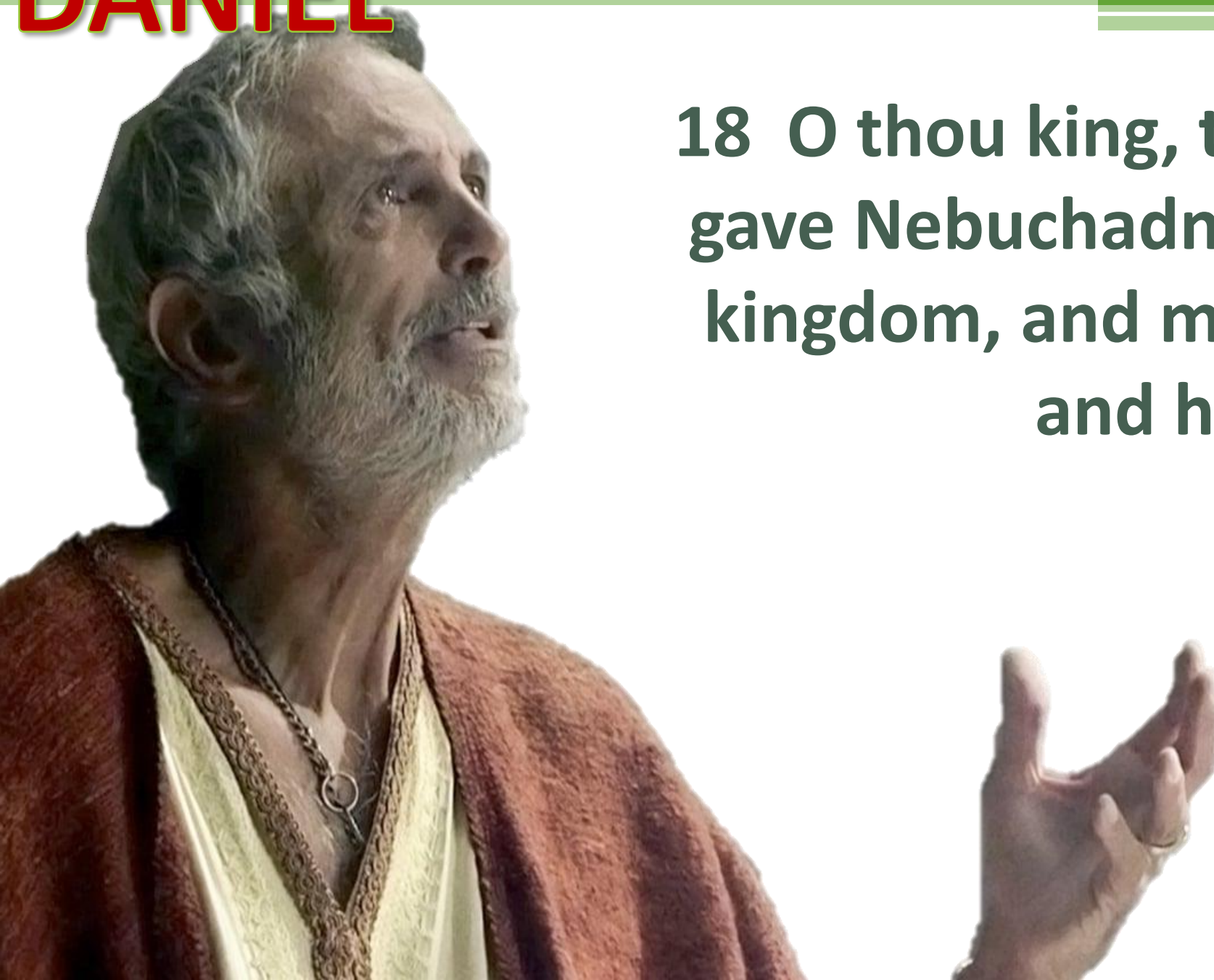
PARAPHRASING . . .

- **REWARDS? GIVE THEM TO SOMEONE ELSE.**



PARAPHRASING . . .

**BUT YES, I'LL INTERPRET
THIS FOR YOU.**



**18 O thou king, the most high God
gave Nebuchadnezzar thy father a
kingdom, and majesty, and glory,
and honour:**



19 And for the majesty that he gave him, all people, nations, and languages, trembled and feared before him: whom he would he slew; and whom he would he kept alive; and whom he would he set up; and whom he would he put down.



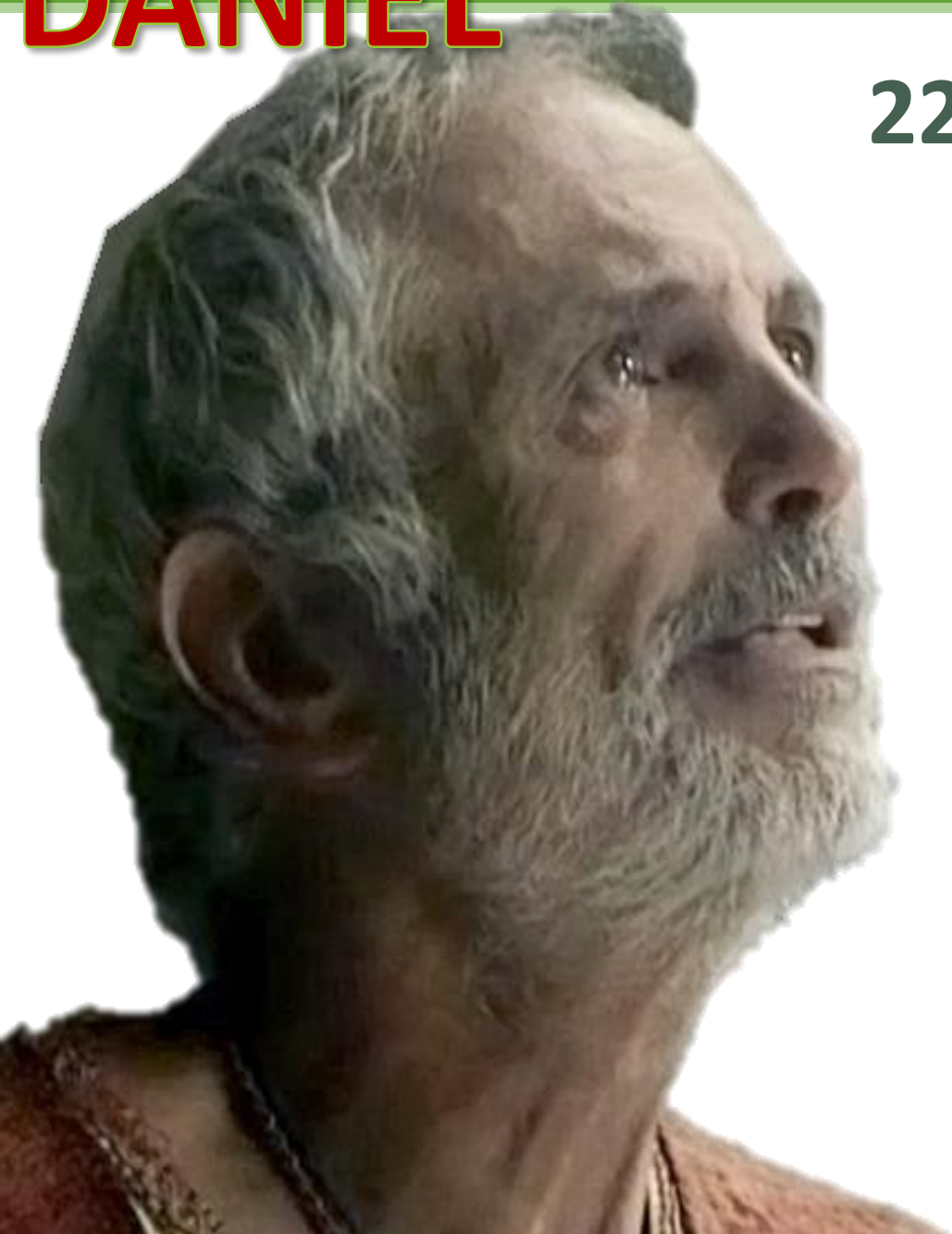
**20 But when his heart was lifted up,
and his mind hardened in pride, he
was deposed from his kingly throne,
and they took his glory from him:**



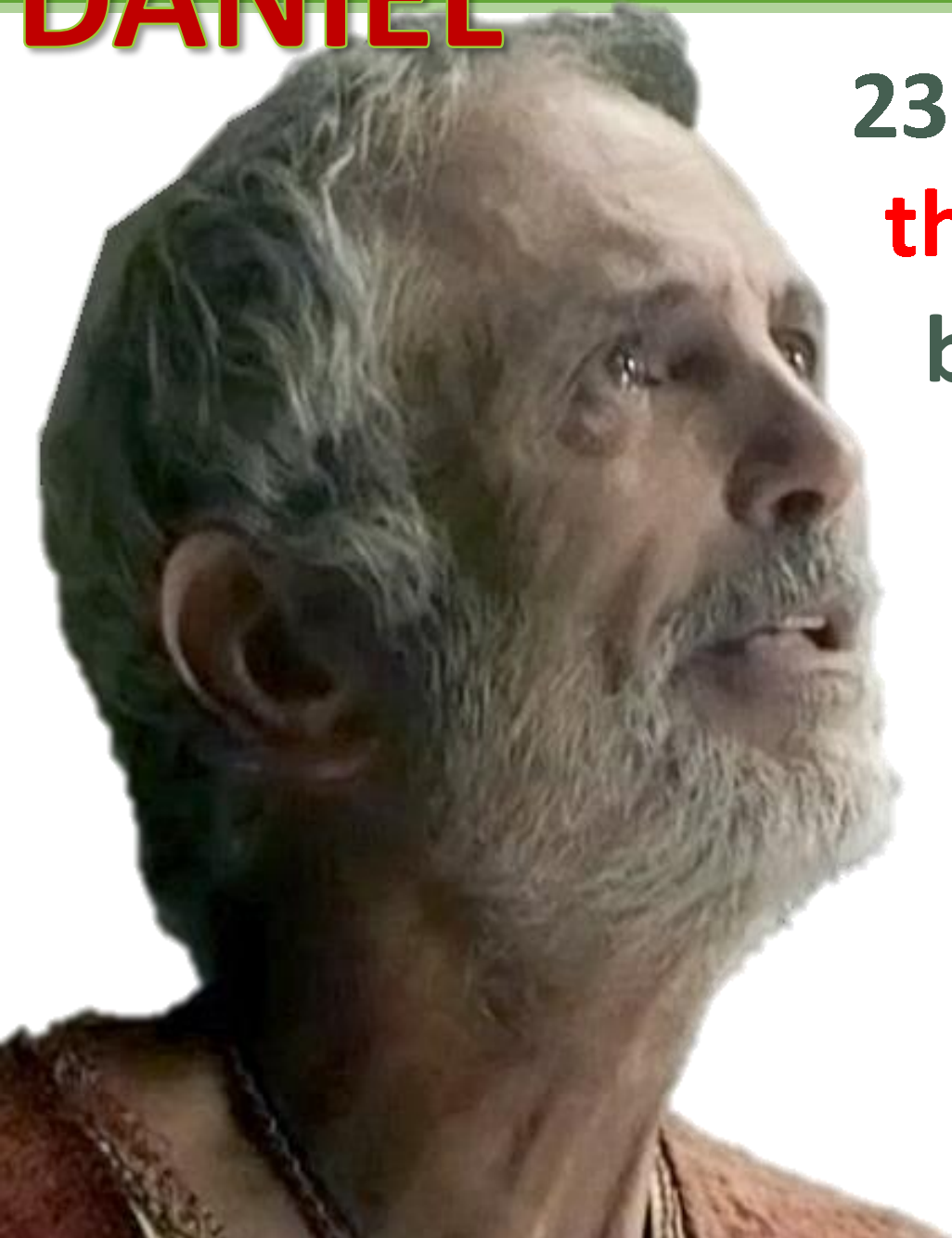
21 And he was driven from the sons of men; and his heart was made like the beasts, and his dwelling was with the wild asses: they fed him with grass like oxen, and his body was wet with the dew of heaven;



till he knew that the most high God
ruled in the kingdom of men, and
that he appointeth over it
whomsoever he will.



**22 And thou his son, O Belshazzar,
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,



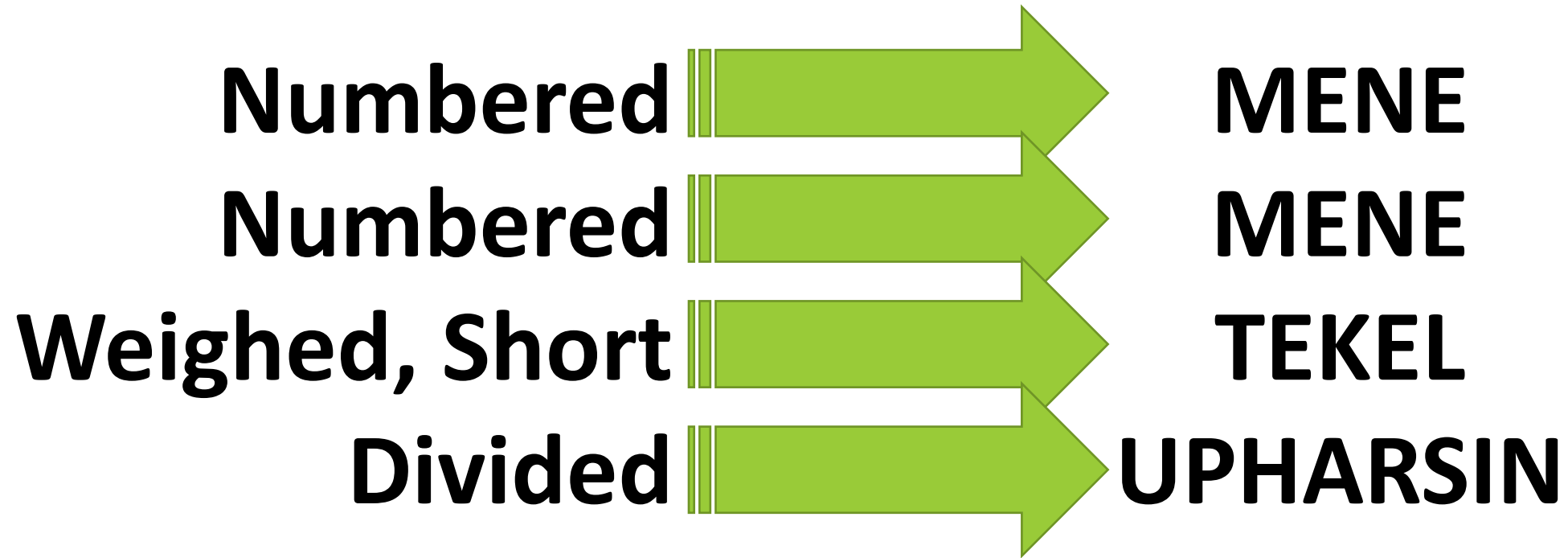
which see not, nor hear, nor know: and the God in whose hand thy breath is, and whose are all thy ways, hast thou not glorified.

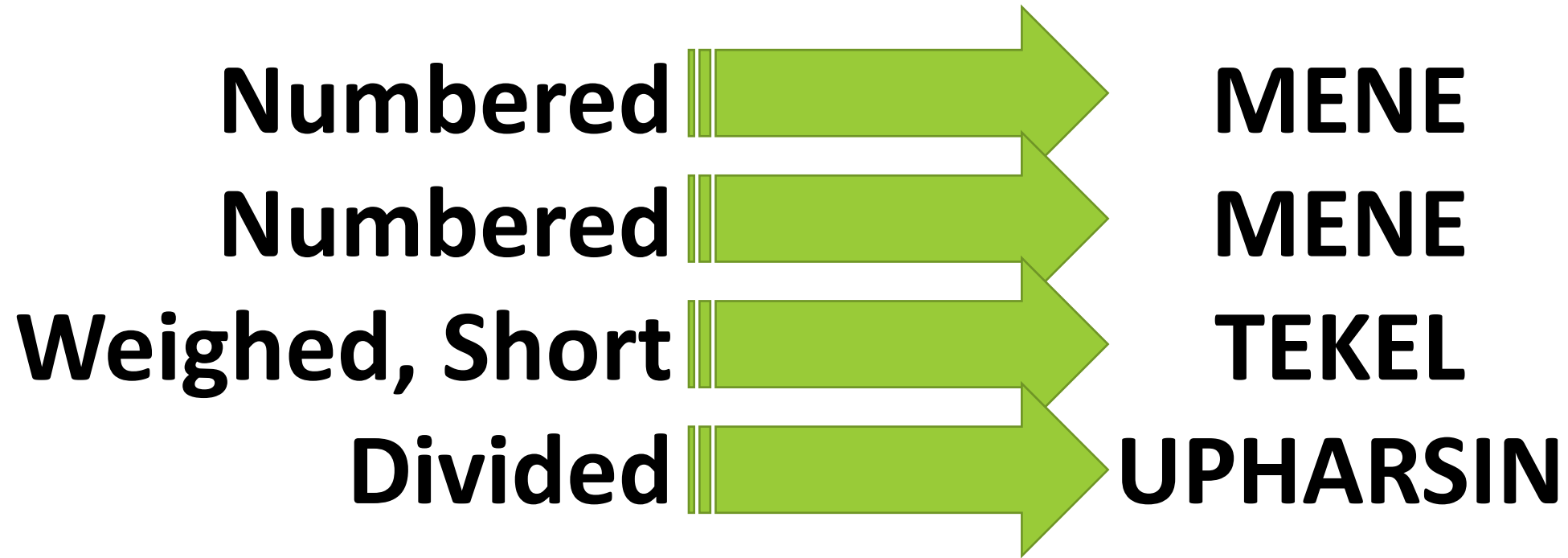
**“You have lifted yourself up against
the Lord of Heaven...**

**The God who holds your breath in His hand,
and owns all your ways.”**

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, MENE, MENE, TEKEL, UPHARSIN.





P T M M

R Q N N

S L / /

N

MENE

MENE

TEKEL

UPHARSIN



MAY HAVE LOOKED LIKE THIS

26 This is the interpretation of the thing: MENE; God hath numbered thy kingdom, and finished it.

27 TEKEL; Thou art weighed in the balances, and art found wanting.

28 PERES; Thy kingdom is divided, and given to the Medes and Persians.

29 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.

30 In that night was Belshazzar the king of the Chaldeans slain.

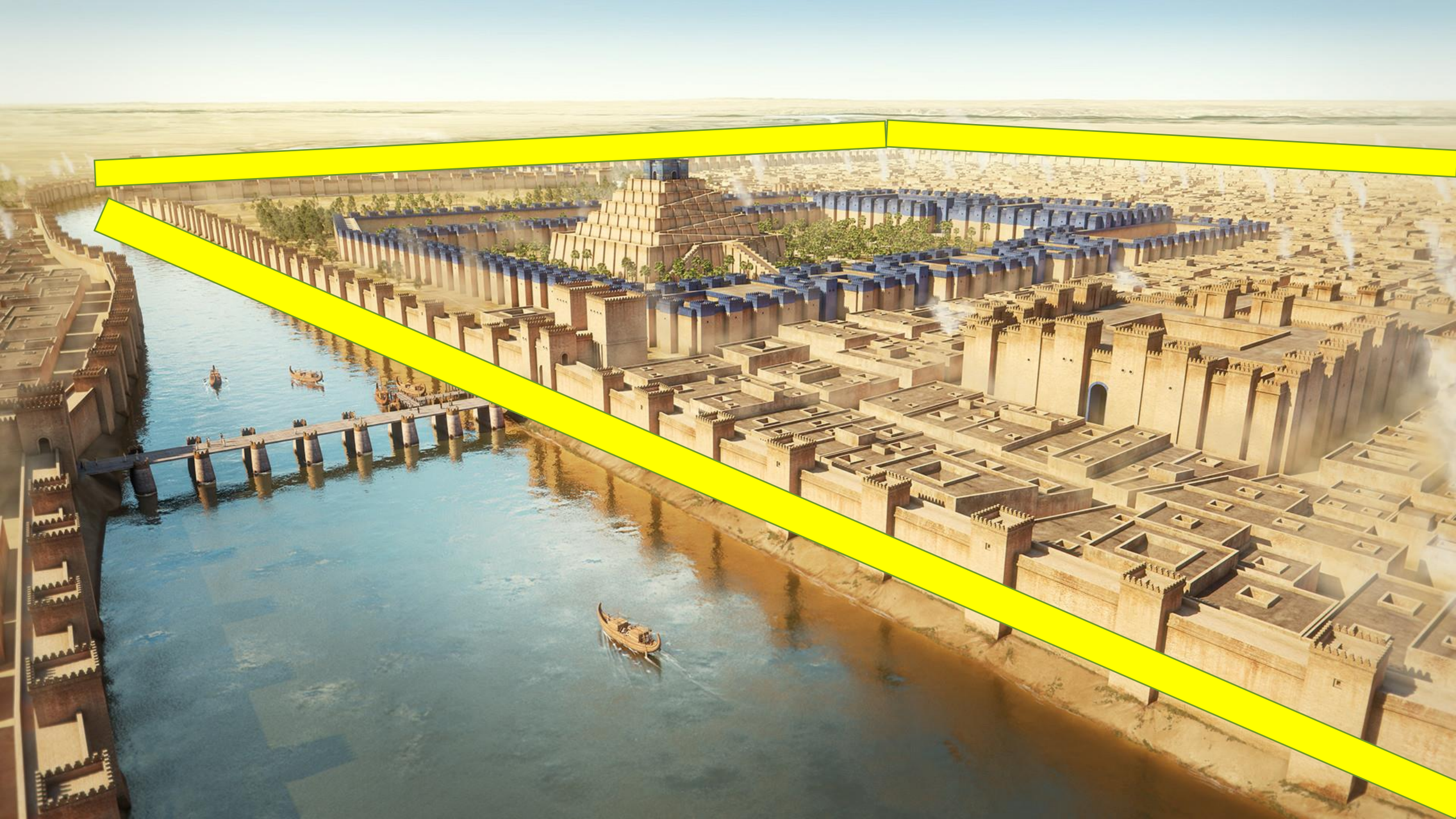
31 And Darius the Median took the kingdom, being about threescore and two years old.

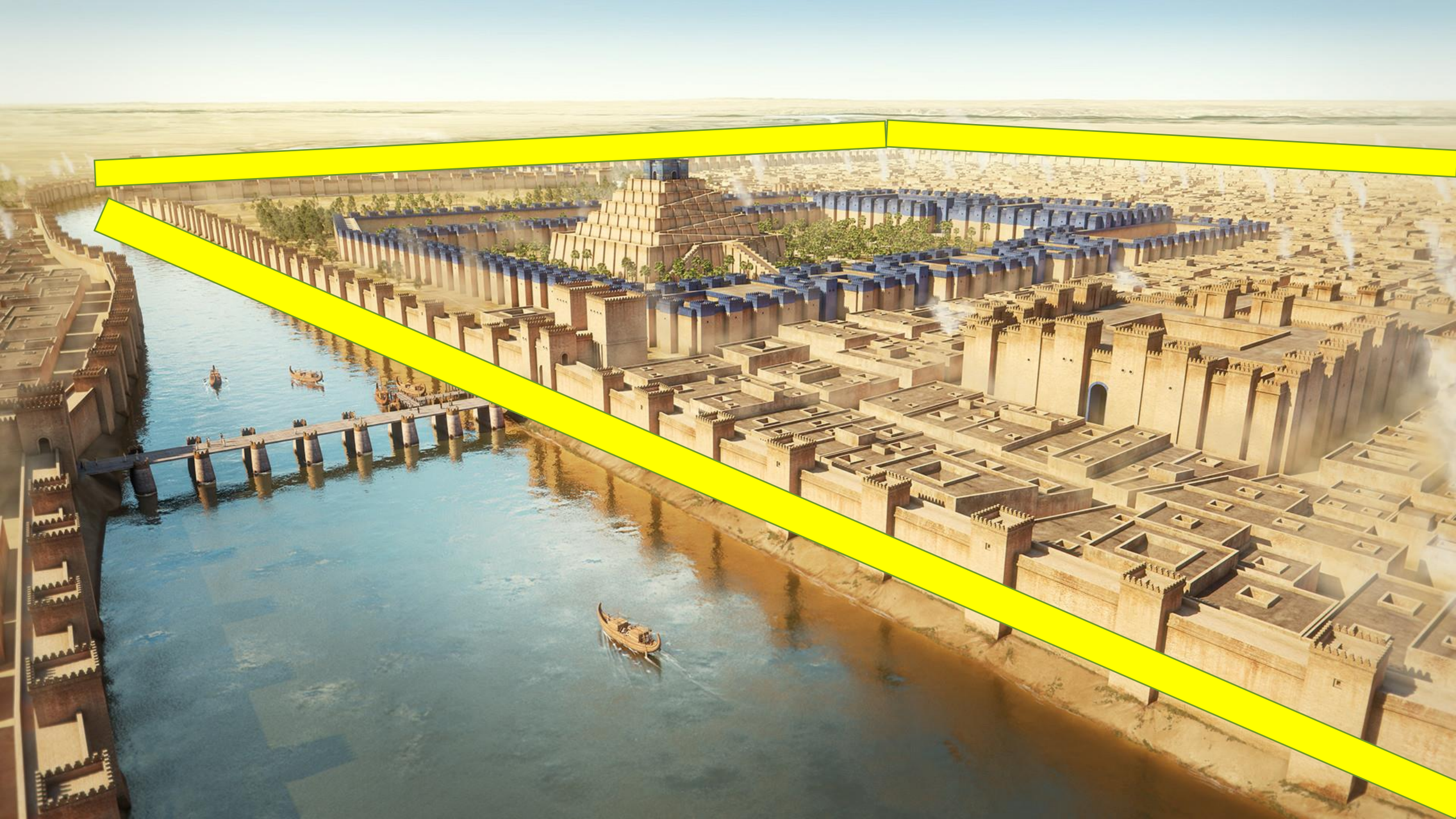
MANY HAVE HEARD HOW CYRUS, GENERAL OF THE MEDO-PERSIAN ARMIES, DIVERTED THE EUPHRATES RIVER INTO A MARSH.

THIS ALLOWED CYRUS AND HIS ARMIES TO MARCH UNDER THE OUTER WALL OF BABYLON.

**THE OUTER WALL OF BABYLON WAS
TWENTY-FIVE FEET WIDE,
AND AT LEAST FORTY FEET HIGH.**

BUT WHAT ABOUT THE INNER WALL?







DANIEL

CHAPTER FIVE

THE INNER WALL OF BABYLON

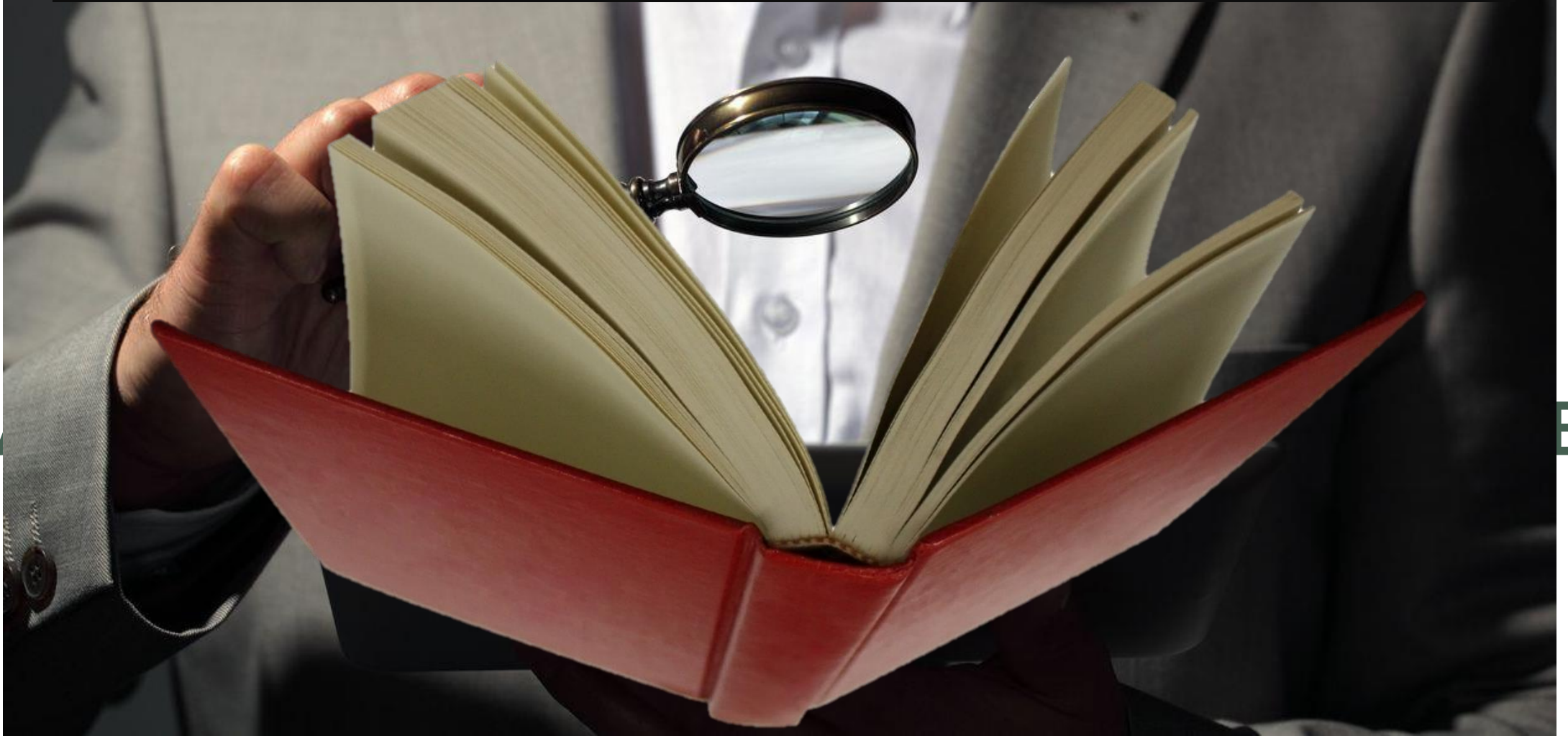


**HISTORIANS SAY THE MAIN GATE OF THE INNER
WALL WAS LEFT OPEN.**

WHO OPENED THE GATE?

**MANY SAY IT MUST HAVE BEEN AN INSIDE JOB,
THE RESULT OF A CONSPIRACY.**

WE HAVE GOD'S WORD TO TELL US



28 That saith of Cyrus, He is my shepherd, and shall perform all my pleasure: even saying to Jerusalem, Thou shalt be built; and to the temple, Thy foundation shall be laid.

-- Isaiah 44:28

CYRUS IS NAMED TWO HUNDRED YEARS BEFORE THIS ALL TOOK PLACE!

Isaiah 45:1-6

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;

Isaiah 45:1-6

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;

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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;**

Isaiah 45:1-6

2 I will go before thee, and make the crooked places straight: I will break in pieces the gates of brass, and cut in sunder the bars of iron:

3 And I will give thee the treasures of darkness, and hidden riches of secret places, that thou mayest know that I, the LORD, which call thee by thy name, am the God of Israel.

Isaiah 45:1-6

4 For Jacob my servant's sake, and Israel mine elect, I have even called thee by thy name: I have surnamed thee, though thou hast not known me.

5 I am the LORD, and there is none else, there is no God beside me: I girded thee, though thou hast not known me:

Isaiah 45:1-6

**6 That they may know from the rising of the sun,
and from the west, that there is none beside me.
I am the LORD, and there is none else.**

NEXT

**DANIEL IN THE
LIONS' DEN**

CHAPTER SIX

