

The Writing on the Wall

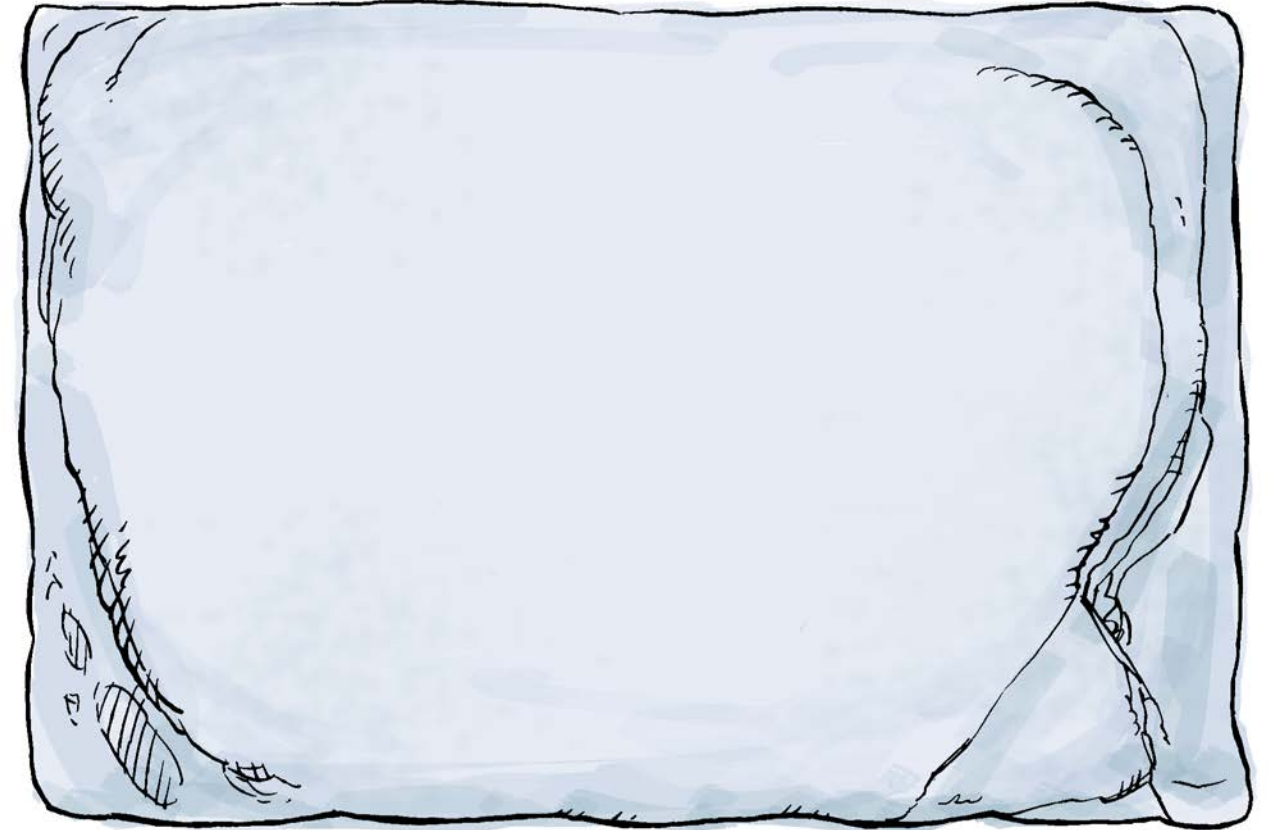
Babylon Will Fall

It's possible we'll meet King Nebuchadnezzar in heaven. Nebuchadnezzar may have come to faith through the witness of Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach, Abednego, and others. His words in Daniel 4:37 seem to indicate a better understanding of the Lord. We don't know for sure, of course. But it's interesting to think about. However, the Babylonian rulers who followed had no relationship with the true God. King Belshazzar (who was either the son or grandson of Nebuchadnezzar) blasphemed the Lord our God in both his words and actions. Judgment was about to fall!



The Writing on the Wall—for Me!

Belshazzar's actions revealed what was in his heart—disrespect for the Lord and a total focus on himself. He and his thousand guests thought they were safe. They thought nothing would disrupt their priorities, power, and pleasure. But judgment was sure. The handwriting was on the wall! The warning was set in stone. If God wrote on *your* wall, what would He write? Where do you see evidence in your life that God's will doesn't matter most to you? What would God tell you, ask you to do, or ask you to change? On the wall below, record God's directive to you according to His Law and will.



Breaking Down Walls

Sin builds walls between you and other people. More significantly, sin builds a wall that separates you from God. The handwriting is on the wall. The consequences are eternal death and damnation. However, we *can* be rescued from these circumstances. There is an answer for breaking down that wall. Read about it in Ephesians 2:13–16. Only Christ Jesus can reconcile us, breaking down walls and reuniting us with the grace and mercy of God. On your wall, demonstrate this by drawing a large yellow cross over the very middle of the wall.

Review

Covenant Connection

The Old Testament is not a series of random stories. Together, they form a coherent picture of God at work to bring our Savior into the world. As the events in today's Bible narrative take place, the people of Judah have been in Babylon for 70 years, just as Jeremiah had foretold. Now, God is getting events ready for their return to the Promised Land. Baby Jesus would be born—not in Babylon, but in Bethlehem. Inspired by the Holy Spirit, Micah foretold it in Micah 5:2.



Remember

“By my God I can leap over a wall. This God—His way is perfect; the word of the LORD proves true; He is a shield for all those who take refuge in Him.” (Psalm 18:29b–30)

