



## *Daniel 5 - Divine Graffiti*

### Small Group Work Sheet

January 13, 2012

### Part 1 - Ice Breaker

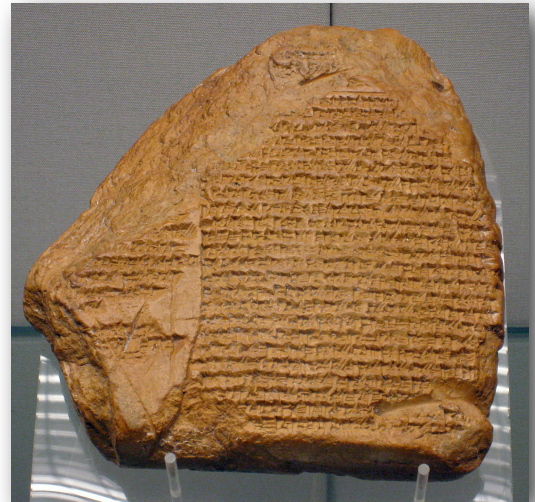
What is your favorite winter sport?

### Part 2 - Sermon Review

1. What made this state dinner so raunch and foolish? What do you think led Belshazzar to become this kind of ruler?
2. Read Daniel 5:1-4. Why did Belshazzar use the cups from the temple in Jerusalem?
3. Read Galatians 6:7. What is the danger of deliberate sin against God?
4. What was God's motive for crashing the party with the fingers of a hand inscribing on the palace wall a warning of immanent destruction only hours before it happened?
5. God used Babylon as the instrument of discipline for his people's sin. Read Jeremiah 50:13-14. If Babylon was doing God's will when they destroyed Jerusalem, why did God destroy them for doing it? What does this teach us about God's wrath against those he uses to discipline us today?
6. The prophet Jeremiah prophesied about Babylon's destruction before it happened. What specific details of the destruction were given by God? What does this tell us about God's control of our future?
  1. Jeremiah 50:3 -
  2. Jeremiah 50:24 -
  3. Jeremiah 51:8 -
  4. Jeremiah 51:11, 28 -



J.G. Taylor cylinder discovered in 1854. It describes Belshazzar as the son of Nabonidus.



T.G. Pinches tablet discovered in 1882. Known as *The Nabonidus Chronicles*, it details why Nabonidus left Belshazzar in power for ten years while he lived in a Saudi Arabian desert oasis named Tema.

5. Jeremiah 51:38-40, 57 -

7. The prophet Isaiah also prophesied about Babylon's destruction before it happened. What details of the destruction were prophesied in Isaiah 47:8-11? What does this tell us about God's control of the surprising events in our lives?

### **Part 3 - Digging Deeper**

8. While the Babylon of ancient history is fallen, another Babylon that is more wicked and self indulgent will arise in the future. It will also oppress God's people in the last days. Read Revelation 18: 8,9,17,19. How will the destruction of this future Babylon be similar to the destruction of the historical Babylon?
9. Read Revelation 17:5-6; 19:1-2. God used Cyrus to overthrow ancient Babylon. Who will overthrow the Babylon of the future?
10. As the time of Christ's return draws closer, what will life be like for God's people?