

SMALL GROUP Q'S

Gracious Justice

May 22, 2016

Daniel 5

- 1.) In his introduction, Will gave some historical background on Belshazzar that confirmed the reliability of the biblical account. Why is that important in general? Is trusting God's Word something with which you often struggle?
- 2.) Can you think of a warning you have ever received that you would consider a gracious warning, one for which you are thankful?
- 3.) Does being religious (churchgoing, etc.) make you feel safe? What are the unique dangers for those of us who are close to the things of God and "hold the cups from the temple in our hands" on a regular basis?
- 4.) Will said, "The consequences of acknowledging your sin may be terrible, but the consequences of not turning from your sin and seeking Jesus and his forgiveness will be much worse." Do you need to find someone to share a particular struggle or failure with?
- 5.) Will said, "Grace does not mean sin gets ignored and the bar lowered; quite the opposite, it means sin gets punished, and sinners are warned to throw themselves upon the only One who reached the bar." How is this a biblical understanding of grace? What other alternatives have you heard?
- 6.) Do you know the feeling of seeing something unfair going on and not being able to bring about justice in the situation?
- 7.) How does the cross assure us of God's commitment to justice and his ultimate commitment with regard to evil and the world He created?
- 8.) Do you think it is fair to call this passage an example of "gracious justice"? If so, how would you explain that to someone else?
- 9.) Sermons about "warnings" and "sin" are perhaps a little less friendly in tone than we are used to. How does such a sermon make you feel immediately after you hear it? What can you learn about your own heart from that?



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