Charles Feinberg:

Shows how they act. They start injecting themselves into the things that belong to God. He did something that even his grandfather, Belshazzar's grandfather was Nebuchadnezzar. It says, "Your father", Well there is no word in Hebrew or Aramaic for Grandfather. Why Christ is called the son of Abraham. Well he's not the immediate son of Abraham, he's the great great great great great great great great great great great great great great grandson of Abraham on the human side.

So Belshazzar makes a feast And notice what he did, He wants them to bring, he commanded them to bring the gold and silver vessels that his grandfather Nebuchadnezzar had taken out of the temple that was in Jerusalem. And what are we going to do with them, praise God? It was so that the king and his princes, his wives, his concubines might drink from them. Now that's bad enough but do you know what else? They brought those golden vessels taken out of the temple and you know what they did? Verse 4, that's the height of it, they drank wine and praised the God of Heaven? No, the gods of gold and of silver, of bronze, of iron, of wood, and of stone. And that was the supreme insult to God. God says, "You’re not going to get away from it. You’re not going to get away with that". What happened? Here is a huge blackboard as it were. The wall, just like that wall there and suddenly, it would scare you to death too, not a whole arm but just that hand. Are you used to seeing hands that way like that? No no no. If you ever do see one even in the dark you know there's the rest of it right there, it wouldn't go
wagging. And here is this hand begins to write, [Aramaic phrase]. And that king almost died. There's a part of a hand that wrote, notice verse six, this is really falling apart he came unglued, literally. King's countenance was changed, his thoughts troubled him, the joints of his loins were loosed, and he became the founder of the knee knocker club. That's a fact. What made it there? "His knees smote one against another", its right in your Bible. How up to date can you get? There it is, "his knees smote one against another". The founder of the club. What, well how did that happen? You mean you've never felt your knees like water? You've never even been tired brother. Well there you are, "And he cried aloud". He wasn't in the Whispering Gallery at all. he says, "bring in all my men", Do you know how many times they call these fakers in and these fakers can't do a bit of good, just like Jean Dixon. And so they come in. Show me this interpretation, you get clothed with Scarlet, You have a chain of gold about your neck, you’d be the third ruler of the kingdom. Why third? Why not second? because archaeology has shown us that Belshazzar was in the realm with his father now [inaudible] and his father was out in the field, he loved the salubrious climate of Tima [sp?] in Arabia and it was one of the reasons why they were so furious with him because the beginning of the year he had to go through a certain ceremony so they would be sure of having a good year, just like turning over a leaf or getting a new rabbit's foot or a charm as we do in our superstitious cultures. And when he didn't come year after year and show up they said, "No wonder we're not having the good years we have". So that's one of the reasons they were so disgusted with him.

But while he was there in the field, Belshazzar was at home doing what you see he did here in the fifth chapter, and so he is at wits end. Now the queen, verse ten, that's not his wife that's the queen mother, the widow of Nebuchadnezzar. She says, "There’s a man, there’s a man", Verse eleven, “in our Kingdom”. Don’t fall apart, "There's a man. In the days of your
grandfather. He helped out tremendously. So he calls him, you'll remember the whole deal. Now how is it that all these wise men didn't know, [Aramaic phrase], three Aramaic words? What kind of wise men are they? The point is, they knew what those words were but they didn't know what they meant.

You could get a child six years of age, first grade, and you put a big H there and say, "What does that mean?" They'll say, "H, a letter of the alphabet". And then you put a little two, "What's that?" They'll say, "Two". Then a big O, "what's that?" "O". A child can read H2O. But it takes more than a child to know that means, because of the particular chemical valence, that it takes two parts of hydrogen, a gas, with one part of oxygen to make water, a liquid. You see they could read those words but they didn't know what they meant. But Daniel did, and what did he say? He says, "This is the end for you". And you see how little he took it to heart. Your kingdom, your weight in the balances is found wanting, your kingdom is divided, that's the thought of [Aramaic word], and it's a play on the word Persian too. Your days are numbered, your kingdom is numbered, you are weighed and found wanting. [Aramaic word] is the Aramaic for which, the sister word of Checco [sp?] in Hebrew, comes from the word, "weighed out". And Perez, your kingdom is divided, given to the Medes and Persians. Then what does he do? He says, "you repent and say, 'Well no use giving any honors if my kingdom isn't going to last that long'." No, he clothed Daniel with scarlet, made a proclamation he said he would be the third rule in the kingdom. And when did it happen? In that night. Notice how long that honor lasted. Daniel wasn't fooled, in that night, Belshazzar the king of the Chaldeans was slain and notice who came in, Darius the Mede took the kingdom and the Bible spends enough time to tell you how old the man was that threw him off the throne, 62 year old man Did him in. That's how corrupt the kingdom was.
Now what does this chapter say? This chapter shows the conduct of Gentile Rule as impious, impious in outraging the holy things of God. How’s that? Haven't you noticed, there was a time in this country, remember when Khrushchev was up in San Francisco, he made a comment about Adam and Eve. I tell you they just about made him swallow his words. Now you ought to hear what they say on TV, not just by inference and laughing at heaven and laughing at hell, merrily we go to hell. They have that, Oh yes they have that in their songs. And when Hollywood, I didn't say Holy-wood, it's unholy-wood, But when Hollywood runs out of subjects, it'll take the Ten Commandments, put their filthy hands on the Bible, you see Or the king of kings or something like that. What right do these people have to enter into that? I don't know how many of you ever listen to that [inaudible] the family, I saw one of them one day and it was talking about the Virgin Mary. Do you remember the remarks they made on that in a Christian country? Vile. They don't just stay in their own filthy bailiwick, they are going to rob you and me blind of the very things that belong to us. When they run out of some subject, they go right and lay their filthy hands on the holy things.

If you don't believe it, haven’t you heard about "Jesus the superstar?" And there's such a stupor fallen, I say it in all kindness and love, Beloved, there is such a stupor fallen on the church that if, what, no matter how vile the actors and everything else are, just so they throw in the word Jesus or something like that, there are a lot of people like the Flintstones jumping up and down and and and clapping their hands and feet. Beloved, let’s wake up. Let's wake up. "Jesus the superstar", do you think that they're honoring the Lord Jesus? The most vile, anti-Christian opponents of the Gospel have always known Jesus Christ was a man. Thanks. What else is new? And we think it's marvelous, what is it going to take for us to tell them to keep their filthy hands off of the holy things of our faith? Or aren't these things happening up there in Washington? Is
there a part of United States where it doesn't happen? If it does I'm moving in before fall, I'm warning you. I have a suspicion that happens here too. You know that kind of TV, and you have all that don't you? Yes. What is that but Daniel five all over again? All over again. And when these kings call themselves king of kings, "I Nebuchadnezzar, I Sargon [sp?], I Esarhaddon [sp?] I King of Kings", what were they doing but taking titles and laying filthy hands on what belonged to the Lord Jesus Christ. He May be king of the hoodlums but not king of kings like the Lord Jesus. That's what the 5th chapter's about, don’t you forget it. And you watch out for that. And when this age goes on, they're going to do more and more and more of this.

And now the 6th chapter, and they're doing it with the cross. [inaudible] With the cross, some people wearing the cross and don't even know what it's all about. I know there's some fine young people that are wearing them, they know what it's about. Actually, for your information historically there is a Christian symbol that's more Christian than the cross. Did you know that? That's the fish. Because the cross, crucifixion, was a type of capital punishment practiced by the Persians, by the Babylonians, and Assyrians, and then Romans later but none of them ever had the fish because the fish, ichthus, means Jesus Christ is the son of God, savior. That's a testimony. So if you want to wear something Christian, wear the symbol of a fish. Now verse 6, "wear Christ in your heart by faith", that's the most important. Daniel in the lion's den. Will you give me five minutes to finish? Here you have Daniel in the lion's den, we’ve got to get him out of the lion's den, just got to get him out of there. This chapter speaks of what? Well, they couldn't stand him, they couldn't find anything against Daniel, and Thank God he was faithful. The only thing they could find was his religion so they get a decree. King, they came up on Darius' blind side, How could he ever have been in Vigo, How could he ever have been duped into this?
You remember that one young medical student just come out of medical school asked an older man who's been practicing medicine for 40 years. He said, "You've been practicing medicine for a long time. You've seen a lot of things about the human anatomy. Can you tell me one of the most important things about it?" He said, "certainly, certainly. You'll find this out about the human anatomy, that if you pat it on the back, its head swells." That's the 6th chapter of Daniel. They patted dear old Darius on the back and he swelled up like a poisoned puff. And what did he do? He didn't stop and think, "Well why isn't Daniel here in this group? How would this affect some other people in the kingdom? He rushed into it, what did they say? If anybody makes a petition or any direct any prayer to any god or any or any king or any ruler except me for 30 days, let him be cast into what? Into a fiery furnace. Notice the accuracy of your Bible. Notice the accuracy your Bible. [Inaudible] Why didn't Darius, Persian He was Zoroastrian and Persians worshipped fire. The Babylonians didn't so Nebuchadnezzar didn't mind throwing the three Hebrew children into the fire, But Darius is a Zoroastrian and he's not going to have them thrown into the fire but into a den of lions because he worships fire. The American Indians did too and numbers of others in the world do as well. You see the accuracy of the Bible?

"Throw him to the lions". And so Daniel when he hears about this says, "Well, I'll have to keep this sort of under the cover you know. I'll have to sort of keep this on the QT". But look at verse 10, "Now when Daniel knew that the writing was signed he went into his house and his windows were open in his chamber told Jerusalem". Now why did he do that? Because when Solomon dedicated the temple he said, "Oh Lord when my people transgress", commit iniquity and sin, "and thou dost cause them to be taken away captive, If when they are in captivity they remind themselves of thee and turn toward thy house and make their petition, hear thou in heaven their prayer and forgive." That's why every Jewish synagogue in the world is either
oriented toward the east or at Mizrah where the rabbi and the notable ones sit, Moses' seat in Matthew's Gospel, or they turn towards the east. If they are in West or in the Far East, if they are in Japan and China and all, they are East of Jerusalem So they look west. But every synagogue in the world, just like a Muslim mosque is always oriented toward Mecca, the Mihrab. So what did he do? That's why he opened his windows toward Jerusalem. And this is really quaint, "He kneeled on his knees", that’s the only thing you can do on your knees is to kneel on them, you see. "He kneeled on his knees three times a day." Some people don't do that a week, "and prayed and gave thanks before his God as he did previously." Now what did he do? He went just the way he was before and his windows were open. You'd think well at least he'd close the windows [inaudible] or something. My, you don't want to go doing this and let everybody know. No he's going to go on living before God just the way it's God's business. As the dear Darkie preacher said, he says, "you know if the Lord tells me to do something I'm going to do it. The rest is with God. If God tells me to jump through a wall, jumping through it belongs to me, jumping at it belongs to me and getting through it belongs to God". God will take care of the consequences.

So these men assemble, they found him praying, so they came to the king, "did't you sign a decree?" Yes, Yes, Yes. And so they said, "You know Daniel is the man, enemy number one." And the scripture says that this king loved Daniel so much and knew Daniel was a faithful man that he tried till the going down of the sun to deliver him. He couldn't do it. Why? He was hamstrung by the nobles you see. He didn't have that absolute monarchy, his was a limited monarchy. The nobles led him around [inaudible]. They said, "You can't do this, you can't change the laws of Medes and Persians change not. You can't right in the middle of this just because this man comes under this law, you can't say he's an exception, No no no no. You're not going to defeat the law that way, it’s as it is". And I tell you that was a miserable night that night
for the king. He didn't want any music, remember that? Oh, he was that off. He went to his palace, passed the night fasting. That's unusual for a king. And he didn't want any music. He didn't want to say, "Give me something that'll just get my mind off it, sleep went from him. He didn't sleep a wink, the scriptures said. And you imagine Daniel, He was there and it's just like a cradle, He was lying back on a lion and every time a lion you know breathes up and down, it's just like rocking him in a cradle. He had a terrific time. And the body was warm and all the rest of it.

And the next morning, I tell you the King couldn't get there too fast, "He went in haste to the den of the lions and he cried with a lamentable voice, 'Daniel, servant of the living God! Is thy God whom thou servest continually able to deliver you from the lions?'" And when Daniel's voice came up, 'oh King Live Forever!'", that was sweeter than any music that King ever heard before. He could have jumped all over the place. Yes, "'My God has sent his angel, shut the Lions' mouths, they haven't hurt me because I was innocent in this matter and I've not done any hurt to you'. He was glad, took him up. The king said, 'Get those men who threw him in there". And somebody may say, "Well it just so happened those animals has been well-fed, they just weren't hungry." You just haven't read your Bible. The Lions have [inaudible] them, broke all their bones in pieces before they came to the bottom of the den. They never got to home base. They didn't even hit the ground before they were gone. And then the King wrote about this wonderful thing.

Now what's this chapter show? It is a refinement, a devil's refinement on what's in the third chapter. Nebuchadnezzar had said, "Bow down to this image", and he didn't care what they did five minutes afterwards. They could have worshipped the Lord God of heaven or any other God. He said, I'm not going to keep a leash on you, do what you want. But the devil is more wise
now. They are commanded not to worship God, any other one. Oh the devil gets wiser all the
while. What's the picture then? When these monarchs are in power, and with this I close, when
these monarchs are in power number one, they sponsor idolatry. Number two, they become
deranged, not realizing their relationship to God, Recognizing his sovereignty. They use in
impious ways the holy things of God, and finally, they arrogate divine exclusive worship
prerogative that belongs to God alone. My friends if these visions show anything, they certainly
reveal a lack of submission to God or lack of rule for him. Finally we do find gentile remnants in
blessing in the Kingdom Age but through all of this you see the faithfulness of God to His
servants and to his truth.

Hudson Taylor once, preaching in England, once stepped to the platform and opened his
Bible to give a message. He said, "Friends I just feel impressed tonight to give you the motto my
life. It’s here in Mark 11:22, 'have faith in God'. The margin in my Bible", he said, "it Reads,
'have the faith of God.' He said I believe it means reckon on God's faith to you." And then he said
these beautiful words, "All my life has been so fickle. Sometimes I could trust, sometimes I
couldn't. When I couldn't trust, then I reckoned that God would be faithful. He abided faithful,
He cannot deny himself. Friend, God has promised that any soul coming to Christ, "him that
cometh to me I will no wise cast off". Why don't you do it? Beloved, you're on the winning side
100 percent of the time. You couldn't get a gilt edge, you couldn't get a gilt edge investment like
that, Talk about stocks and bonds. Hundred percent insurance, assurance, eternal assurance yes.
Trust him, He died for you and me. "Here in his love, Not that we loved God, but he loved us
and sent his son to be the propitiation, the satisfying sacrifice for our sin". If you haven't done
that we'd be glad for you to come up later. We'll speak with you Pastor Straub, brother Duff,
Brother Rayburn, and others, Mrs. Duff [sp?], they'll be glad to speak with you of the things of
eternal life. Shall we stand to be dismissed? Remember the service tomorrow night, Daniel the seventh chapter.

Our father in heaven these are nothing less than amazing chapters. This isn't some pages out of a story book, out of Aesop's Fables. These are not legends or myths, these are truths. These things have happened and they're going to happen again. They're all going to happen at the end of the age. Rulers of that day are going to advocate idolatry. They are going to become deranged sitting in the temple of God saying they are God. A man would have to be insane to do that. And they're going to take holy things and use them in unholy ways; sitting in the temple, taking away the sacrifices, and putting in their own vicious things. And then they're not going to want to allow anyone to worship in the proper way, even to buy and sell they'll have to be the number that they assign. Lord, make us alert to thy word and to thy truth, keep us fervent toward our Lord Jesus, zealous in winning souls, in sharing Christ. Bless young and old here tonight and all the household of faith. And now may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. Amen, amen. Lord bless you, you are dismissed.

[End part 2]