

**The End of Time**  
**Daniel 5**  
**12-30-12**

The events in Daniel 5 is where the expression “the writing on the wall” comes from. We see the infamous words “*Mene Mene Tekel Peres/Upharson*” appear, and terrify Belshazzar. What is more remarkable though is that when Daniel gives him the message meaning (Daniel: This is your last hour), that Belshazzar continued to feast. That night his life and kingdom were lost.

We need to take a point here: One day time WILL end; will you be prepared?

Why is it Belshazzar, and indeed we ourselves, seem to ignore the writing on the wall? Perhaps it is because we are enjoying the pleasures of sin for a season. Sometimes sin becomes so enticing we fail to realize what is going on around us. This might be why the prodigal son failed to see he was running out of money in the time of a famine (Luke 15:11-15).

Sometimes it is not sin, but the world that distracts us. Consider the farmer of Luke 12:18-20. His distraction to the end of time was his property, a gift from God.

We need to place foremost in our minds that time is coming to an end. “To everything there is a season, A time for every purpose under heaven” (Ecclesiastes 3:1-8). There could come a time when it is too late to turn around. Esau met such a moment according to Hebrews 12:14-17. “He found no place for repentance, though he sought it diligently with tears”

One day we will stand before God in judgment. We will give account of all of our hours, minutes and years. Consider the parable of the talents in Matthew 25:14-30. Did we invest our time wisely? Every moment is given by God; it is not without an expectation. How will you account for 2012? If God gives you reprieve, will you take it?

*For He says:*  
*In an acceptable time I have heard you,*  
*And in the day of salvation I have helped you*  
*Behold, now is the accepted time;*  
*behold, now is the day of salvation.*  
2 Corinthians 6:2