Daniel - Conviction in an Age of Compromise

“The Party’s Over”
David Owens
2 Peter 3:8-12a (Sermon covers Daniel 5) 8/2/15

Introduction:
A. When chapter 5 opens, Nebuchadnezzar has been dead for ______ years.
B. Daniel is probably in his _____ or ______ and is living in semi-retirement.
C. The kingdom of Babylon is led by co-regents, father and son, Nabonidus and Belshazzar (Nebuchadnezzar’s ___________ and ____________).
D. When chapter 5 begins, the mighty army of the Medes and Persians was ________ outside the city of Babylon.
E. Belshazzar didn’t consider this a genuine threat because of the city’s __________ and the stored ______________.

I. The Story
A. Belshazzar put on a huge ___________, probably with the intent on putting a good spin on this recent turn of events.
B. When it was time to offer toasts to the gods of Babylon, Belshazzar ordered that the ________ Nebuchadnezzar had taken from the ________ be used for the toasts.
C. Suddenly the fingers of a human ______ appeared and wrote on the ______.
D. The king’s face turned ______ and his knees __________.
E. The king called for the ______ men, but just like with Nebuchadnezzar they could not __________ the message.
F. Belshazzar’s __________ remembered what __________ had been able to do for her father, Nebuchadnezzar.
G. Before Daniel revealed the message that God had written, he reviewed some __________ with Belshazzar.
H. Next, Daniel spoke some __________ words to Belshazzar.
I. Finally, Daniel gave the interpretation:
   1. Mene - God has ________ your days and brought them to an end.
   2. Tekel - You have been ________ and found __________.
   3. Peres - Your kingdom is divided and given to the ______ and ________.
J. That very night, Belshazzar was ________, and Darius the Mede took over the kingdom.

II. The Application - What lessons can we learn?
A. God is the ____________ One.  God is the Righteous __________.
   1. None of us are in a position to say when something _____ God’s judgment and when it is ______.
   2. Our role is not to __________, but to offer the ______ ______ of repentance and restoration.
B. The fact that God is the Sovereign and Righteous Judge should cause us all to __________ ourselves to Him in reverent ________.
   1. When God gives __________, then they must be __________.
C. Question: If God was writing on your wall, what would he be writing?