

# THE POWER OF RELEVANCE (THERE IS A MAN IN YOUR KINGDOM)



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## *Bible passage and text*

- Reading: Daniel 5:1-31

- Text:

*The queen, hearing the voices of the king and his nobles, came into the banquet hall. “May the king live forever!” she said. “Don’t be alarmed! Don’t look so pale! There is a man in your kingdom who has the spirit of the holy gods in him. In the time of your father he was found to have insight and intelligence and wisdom like that of the gods. Your father, King Nebuchadnezzar, appointed him chief of the magicians, enchanters, astrologers and diviners. He did this because Daniel, whom the king called Belshazzar, was found to have a keen mind and knowledge and understanding, and also the ability to interpret dreams, explain riddles and solve difficult problems. Call for Daniel, and he will tell you what the writing means.” (Daniel 5:10-12)*

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## *Bible passage and text*

- Reading: Daniel 5:1-31

- Text:

*A man's gift opens doors for him, and brings him before great men. (BSB)*

*A man's gift makes room for him, And brings him before great men. (NKJ)*

*A person's gift opens doors for him, bringing him access to important people. (Proverbs 18:16, ISV)*

# THE POWER OF RELEVANCE (THERE IS A MAN IN YOUR KINGDOM)



## 1. Introduction

- Social media driven age
- A world is clamouring for visibility
- Huge efforts to build their own personal brand
- Seeking to create visibility, build a personal following, or line of business
- Reality is that 90% of Internet income is earned by the top 10% of channels or personalities
- Bottom line is that people are desperately seeking to be visible - seeking and hoping to be of interest to someone out there

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## *1. Introduction*

- Social media driven age
- Truth is: we all long to be RELEVANT; we are all seeking to be RELEVANT to other people
- The need for, quest for, or search for relevance lies at the heart of our human existence

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## 2. *Understanding relevance*

- Dictionary definition:
- *The quality or state of being closely connected or appropriate;*
- *Germane, material, pertinent, apposite, applicable, relating to or bearing upon the matter;*
- *A traceable, significant, logical connection*

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## *2. Understanding relevance*

- Being the kind of person on whom others depend, whether for leadership, expertise, acumen, or emotional support
- You are relevant when you are valued
- You are relevant when others depend on you for what you bring; when you bring or add value; when you offer a solution
- Problem-solvers will always be relevant

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## *3. Daniel 5: brief overview*

- Being the kind of person on whom others depend, whether for leadership, expertise, acumen, or emotional support
- King Belshazzar, King of Babylon, holds a great feast
- Along with his lords drinks with vessels taken from Temple in Jerusalem
- As he drinks hand appeared and writes on the wall.
- Belshazzar puzzled and calls for his magicians and soothsayers to interpret the writing, but they are unable even to read let alone interpret
- Queen advised Belshazzar to send for Daniel, renowned for his insight and wisdom



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## 3. *Daniel 5: brief overview*

- Daniel brought in, the king offers to make him third in rank in the kingdom if he was able to interpret the writing
- Daniel flatly declined the king's inducement, but agrees to help
- Daniel reminded Belshazzar that his father Nebuchadnezzar's greatness was a gift from God. However, when he became arrogant, God threw him down until he learned humility: 'the Most High God has sovereignty over the kingdom of mortals, and sets over it whomever He will.'

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## 3. *Daniel 5: brief overview*

- Belshazzar had done doubly wrong. He had not only drunk drunk from the vessels of God's Temple, he had praised his idols, instead of giving honour to the true God; hence the message sent by God
- Daniel read read the message: 'MENE, MENE, TEKEL, UPHARSIN', which he interpreted as follows:
- 'MENE': God has numbered the days of your kingdom and brought it to an end
- 'TEKEL': you have been weighed ... and found wanting;'
- 'PERES': your kingdom is divided and given to the Medes and Persians

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## *3. Daniel 5: brief overview*

- Immediately, Belshazzar gave the command, and Daniel was 'clothed in purple, a chain of gold was put around his neck, and a proclamation was made... that he should rank third in the kingdom
- That very night Belshazzar the Chaldean (Babylonian) king was killed, and Darius the Mede received the kingdom.'

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## *5. Learning from the relevance of Daniel*

**5.1 Relevance is triggered by an issue, challenge, problem, crisis or difficulty that someone has**

*(Daniel 5:1-9)*

You become relevant when you can solve someone else's problem

A crises or problem is the factory in which relevance operates

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## *5. Learning from the relevance of Daniel*

### **5.2 Relevance means value (relevance is value)**

*(Daniel 5:7-12)*

The value you carry is the solution that people need, which causes them to come to you

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## *5. Learning from the relevance of Daniel*

**5.3 Relevance is built on competency,  
authenticity, and consistent delivery over  
time**

*(Daniel 5:7-12)*

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## *5. Learning from the relevance of Daniel*

**5.4 Relevance does not need to be advertised; it announces or speaks for itself**  
*(Daniel 5:7-12)*

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## *5. Learning from the relevance of Daniel*

**5.5 Relevance is not a function of age; it is a matter of grace**



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## *5. Learning from the relevance of Daniel*

**5.6 The grace of God will take you to  
anywhere that God has ordained for you –  
regardless of where you come from**

*(Daniel 5:11-13)*

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## *5. Learning from the relevance of Daniel*

### **5.7 Relevance cannot be induced, bribed, bought or corrupted by money, power or position**

*(Daniel 5:13-17)*

Serve people with your gifts and the blessings will come -  
spiritual and material

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## *5. Learning from the relevance of Daniel*

### **5.8 Relevance speaks truth to power** *(Daniel 5:18-28)*

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## *5. Learning from the relevance of Daniel*

### **5.9 Relevance brings (great) reward** *(Daniel 5:29)*

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## ***6. Jesus – the ultimate example of relevance***

### **6. Jesus is the ultimate example and the most relevant person that ever lived**

*(Acts 10:38)*

Healed the lame, leper, blind and all manner of diseases

Friend to the outcasts and marginalised of society

The antidote to the greatest need of mankind – the need for a Saviour, to be saved from the power and penalty of sin

Jesus is relevant in every area of need in our world – spiritual, emotional, material, psychological. Jesus is the answer

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## *7. Do you want to be relevant?*

### **7. For those who desire to be relevant**

Two facets to this: (i) spiritual; (ii) practical

Receive the grace of God – through salvation in Jesus

Receive the grace gifts that God has given to you. Apply yourself, grow in your grace gifts

Maintain personal spiritual disciplines of prayer (with fasting), worship, fellowship, service, reading and meditating on God's word, etc.

Hone your skills, talents and abilities

Serve selfless – with all that you have; constantly seeking to grow and develop every day

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## 8. *Summary, conclusion and application*

- The message is: ‘The power of relevance (There is a man in your kingdom).’
- Many desire and seek to be relevant in our world. However, instead of seeking relevance, they are seeking fame and fortune. This is seen in the explosion of activity on the various social media platform – Facebook, YouTube, Instagram, etc.
- God desires that we live lives that are relevant
- The Church of Jesus Christ is called to be and should be the most relevant people, group, or institution in the world
- Relevance is about being the solution to the needs of others

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## 8. *Summary, conclusion and application*

- Daniel's life teaches us aspects of what it means to be relevant:
- 5.1 Relevance is triggered by an issue, challenge, problem, crisis or difficulty that someone has
- *You become relevant when you can solve someone else's problem. A crises or problem is the factory in which relevance operates*
- 5.2 Relevance means value (relevance is value)
- 5.3 Relevance is built on competency, authenticity, and consistent delivery over time
- 5.4 Relevance does not need to be advertised; it announces or speaks for itself



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## ***8. Summary, conclusion and application***

- 5.5 Relevance is not a function of age; it is a matter of grace
- 5.6 The grace of god will take you to anywhere that god has ordained for you
- 5.7 relevance cannot be induced, bribed, bought or corrupted by money, power or position
- 5.8 Relevance speaks truth to power
- 5.9 Relevance brings (great) reward
- 6. Jesus – our ultimate example and the most relevant person that ever lived

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## ***8. Summary, conclusion and application***

- For those who desire to be relevant
- Two facets to this: (i) spiritual; (ii) practical
- Receive the grace of God – through salvation in Jesus
- Receive the grace gifts that God has given to you. Apply yourself, grow in your grace gifts
- Maintain personal spiritual disciplines of prayer (with fasting), worship, fellowship, service, reading and meditating on God's word, etc.
- Hone your skills, talents and abilities
- Serve selfless – with all that you have; constantly seeking to grow and develop every day