

over earthly rulers. God's greatness far beyond that of any human force, or any human leader, or any human opponent of God's will. Chapter 5 again the same. Belshazzar brings out the instruments of ~~gold~~ gold and silver. This methodist quarterly that I referred to this morning entitles its lesson on Daniel 5 the evils of drinking. Belshazzar was drinking liquor, it tells us here, and the Lord killed Belshazzar. Well, he was drinking liquor, but there is nothing in the passage about drinking liquor that I can see otherwise. What is in the passage is his boastfulness against God, and his setting himself up against God, and God has measured him in the balances and found him wanting. Perhaps part of Belshazzar's wickedness can be traced to this, but it is certainly not the main theme of the passage by any means. <sup>B</sup>ut here ~~xxx~~ again it is a man, a human ruler setting himself up against God, and God smiting him down, showing God's supremacy over him. And then chapter six again is the same theme. Chapter six is Darius the Mede established the situation, and he was persuaded to ~~xxxx~~ make a law that nobody should worship anyone but him, and Daniel worshipped God, and as a result Darius against his will, had to put Daniel in the den of lions, but God protected him in the den of lions. God's superiority over nature. God's superiority over Darius the Mede. God's superiority over the devices of wicked men that would wish to destroy Daniel. God's power in the face of terrific human persecution, to accomplish his will and deliver His own when He chooses. Now in the view of this summary of these first six chapters I think we must admit that the first six chapters of Daniel are not a history, but a sermon. A sermon with a series of illustrations. There is one thought presented. God is supreme. Jerusalem may be destroyed. The temple may perish, ~~wick~~ wickedness may seem to be triumphant, but God is still supreme. Wickedness may triumph. Great wicked powers may seem to control the world, but in the end God is going to put an end to them. God's people, if they follow his law, and obey his commands, may be faced with most terrible difficulties, but God is able if He chooses to deliver them out of the difficulties, no matter how great these difficulties may be. ~~xxxx~~ Daniel 1-6 is a sermon presenting this theme, and giving a series of illustrations, some from the life of Daniel, the first