

Bible Stories for Young Children

part of a curriculum prepared for young children

BELSHAZZAR'S FEAST

by

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& people from Coromandel Baptist Church

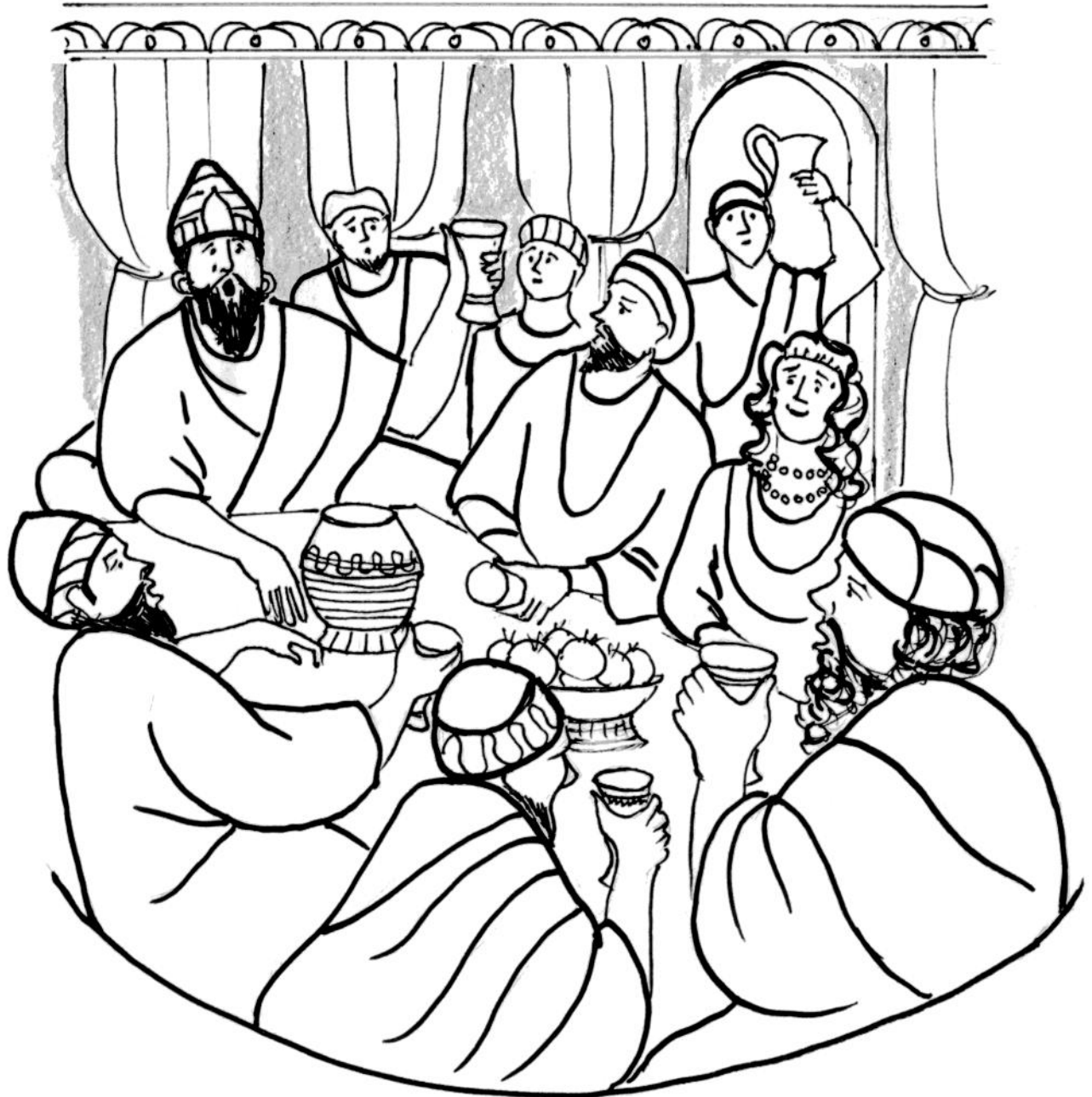
Illustrated by Kay Kammermann

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DANIEL 5:1-31
BELSHAZZAR'S FEAST
File no. 94

King Belshazzar was feasting with his guests, and drinking to their gods made of gold, silver, bronze, iron, wood and stone. He was using the gold cups taken from God's temple in Jerusalem.



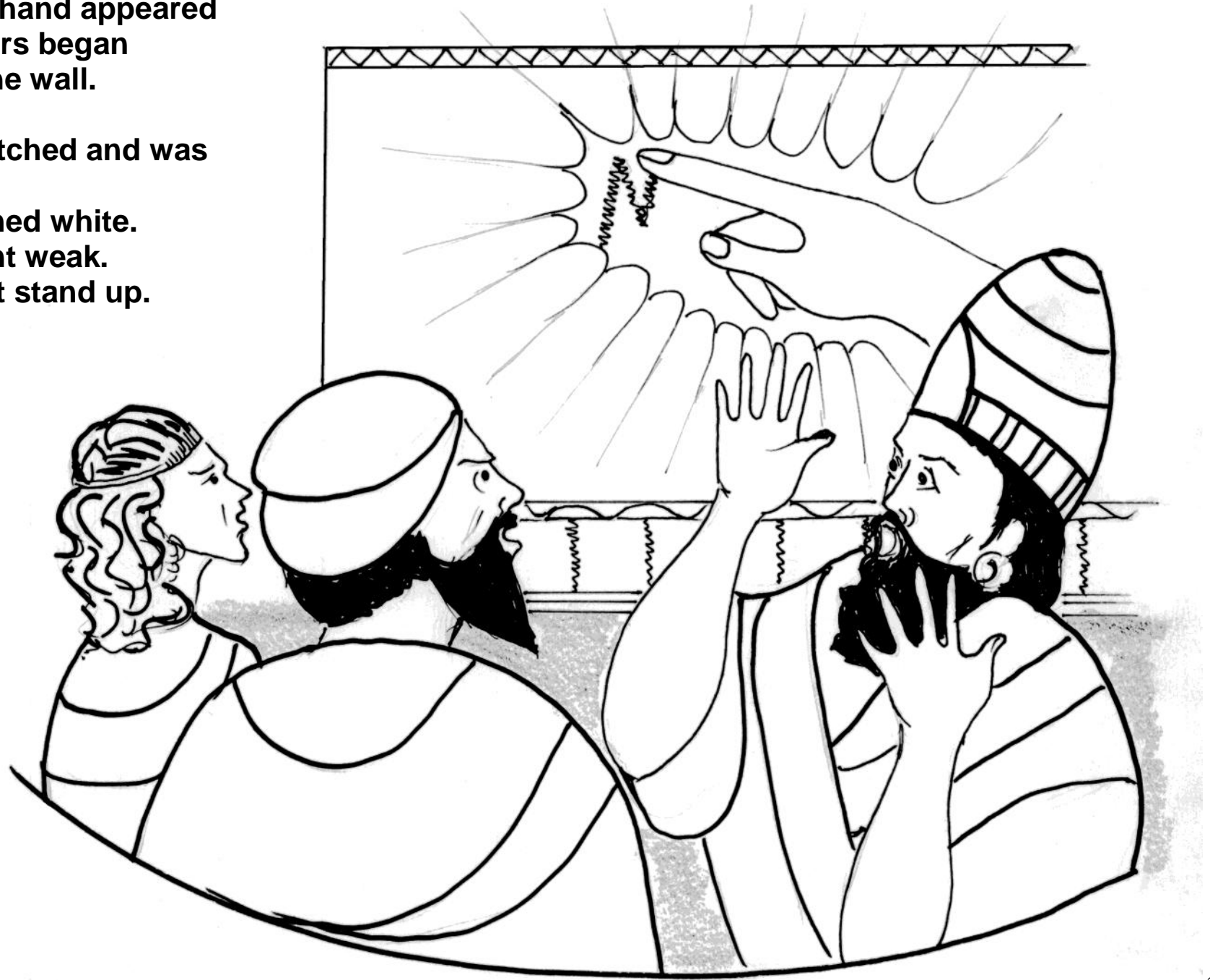
**Suddenly, a hand appeared
and its fingers began
writing on the wall.**

**The king watched and was
scared.**

His face turned white.

His legs went weak.

He could not stand up.



**Belshazzar called out,
'Bring in the wise men.
Tell me what the writing means.
I will give royal clothes to the person
who can do this and
make him third highest ruler
in my kingdom.'**

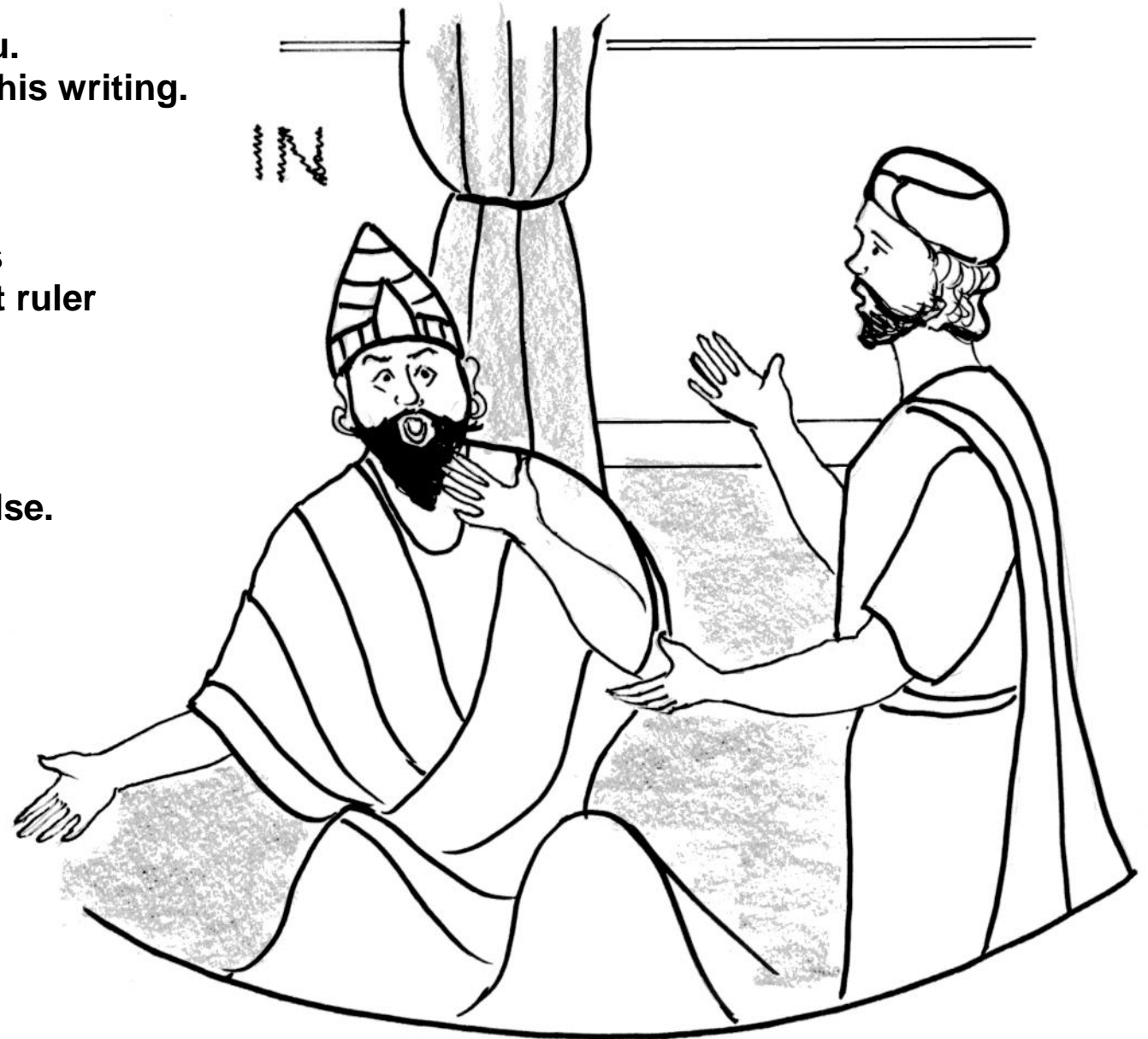
**The wise men looked at the writing.
They could not read it.
No one knew what to do.**

**Then the king's mother said,
'My king, live forever!
Do not be afraid!
There is a man
who has the spirit
of the holy gods in him.
When your father,
Nebuchadnezzar, was king,
he interpreted
your father's dreams.
This man is Daniel.
He will tell you
what the writing on the wall means.'**



**When Daniel was brought in
the king said to him,
'I have heard that you have
the spirit of the gods in you.
My wise men cannot read this writing.
You read it to me.
Tell me what it means.
If you can,
I will give you royal clothes
and make you third highest ruler
in my kingdom.'**

**Daniel answered,
'You can keep your gifts
or give them to someone else.
I will read the writing
on the wall for you
and explain what it means.'**



**'O king,
God Almighty made your father
a great king.
But he became proud.
God took away his power
and made him live with animals
until he learned that
God Almighty is over everything.**

**'You have not taken notice
of what happened to your father.
Instead, you have turned against
God Almighty.
You used the gold cups from
God's temple to praise your gods.
You did not honour God
who has power over everything
you do.
God has sent this hand
to write on the wall.**



**‘The words you see, are:
“Mene, mene, tekel, parsin.”**

**‘They mean:
God is bringing your kingdom
to an end.
You have been weighed
on the scales
and have not passed the test.
Your kingdom is being divided
and given
to the Medes and the Persians.’**



Belshazzar dressed Daniel in purple, put a gold chain around his neck and made him the third highest ruler in his kingdom.

But that night Belshazzar was killed and another king took over all his kingdom.

