

Pastor Ron Case
9/11/11

“Party-Time?”

*“...the exulting of the wicked is short, and the joy of the godless but for a moment?”
(Job 20:5)*

Partying on the Precipice of Disaster

Daniel 5:1-4, 30 – (1) “King Belshazzar made a great feast for a thousand of his lords and drank wine in front of the thousand. (2) Belshazzar, when he tasted the wine, commanded that the vessels of gold and of silver that Nebuchadnezzar his father had taken out of the temple in Jerusalem be brought, that the king and his lords, his wives, and his concubines might drink from them. (3) Then they brought in the golden vessels that had been taken out of the temple, the house of God in Jerusalem, and the king and his lords, his wives, and his concubines drank from them. (4) They drank wine and praised the gods of gold and silver, bronze, iron, wood, and stone. (30) *That very night Belshazzar the Chaldean king was killed.*”

Playing Instead of Praying

Isaiah 22:8-14 – (8) “He has taken away the covering of Judah. In that day you looked to the weapons of the House of the Forest, (9) and you saw that the breaches of the city of David were many. You collected the waters of the lower pool, (10) and you counted the houses of Jerusalem, and you broke down the houses to fortify the wall. (11) You made a reservoir between the two walls for the water of the old pool. **But you did not look to him who did it, or see him who planned it long ago.** (12) In that day the Lord GOD of hosts called for weeping and mourning, for baldness and wearing sackcloth; (13) and behold, joy and gladness, killing oxen and slaughtering sheep, eating flesh and drinking wine. **‘Let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we die.’** (14) The LORD of hosts has revealed himself in my ears: **‘Surely this iniquity will not be atoned for you until you die, says the Lord GOD of hosts.’**”

Key Point: Live for the Eternal One, not Fleeting Fun
--

Response:

(1) Understand this Life

“It is better to go to the house of mourning than to go to the house of feasting, for this is the end of all mankind, and the living will lay it to heart. Sorrow is better than laughter, for by sadness of face the heart is made glad. The heart of the wise is in the house of mourning, but the heart of fools is in the house of mirth.” (Ecclesiastes 7:2-4)

(2) Accept God's Pattern

“Truly, truly, I say to you, you will weep and lament, but the world will rejoice. You will be sorrowful, but your sorrow will turn into joy.”

(John 16:20)

(3) Don't Give In to Hedonism

“But if that servant says to himself, ‘My master is delayed in coming,’ and begins to beat the male and female servants, and to eat and drink and get drunk, the master of that servant will come on a day when he does not expect him and at an hour he does not know, and will cut him in pieces and put him with the unfaithful.” (Luke 12:45-46)

“But watch yourselves lest your hearts be weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and cares of this life, and that day come upon you suddenly like a trap.” (Luke 21:34)

Questions:

What impacted me the most in this message?

Do I live to play or live unto God? (Ex. 32:6; 2 Kings 5:26; Rom. 14:8)

Is God against celebration and fun? (Eccl. 3:4, 10:16-17; Ps. 37:4, 16:9-11; Deut. 12:7, 14:26; Acts 2:46-47; Rev. 19:7)