



# “The Del-Haven Vision”

*“Without vision, the people perish” (Proverbs 29:18)*

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Newsletter of Camp Del-Haven

Turning Kids from Crime to Christ

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*“And you have lifted yourself up against the Lord of heaven...and the God who holds your breath in His hand and owns all your ways, you have not glorified.” Dan.5:23*

This is what is written concerning Belshazzar, the son of Nebuchadnezzar. He had been a witness as to how the Lord had dealt with his father -- who was, by Him, deposed of his kingly throne and driven away from sane society and made like beasts dwelling among wild donkeys. And, in this sorry condition he stayed “until he knew that *the Most High God rules in the kingdom of men and appoints over it whomever He chooses*” (Dan.5:21).

Although Belshazzar observed this bizarre happening with his father, he did not heed even a warning from the grand declaration that came forth from him when God restored him back to his sanity. Nebuchadnezzar, it says, *“blessed the Most High and praised and honored Him who lives forever: for His dominion is an everlasting dominion, and His kingdom is from generation to generation. All the inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing. He does according to His will in the army of heaven and among the inhabitants of the earth. No one can restrain His hand or say to Him, ‘What have you done?’...And those who walk in pride He is able to put down.” (Dan.4:34-37)*

King Belshazzar saw and heard these things as they happened to his father, but was not moved by them. He was not spiritually quickened and transformed by the Holy Spirit. Obviously, God did not intend for this to happen. Obviously, God did not reveal Himself to Belshazzar like He did to his father. The description of Belshazzar not being motivated by a *“humbled heart”* and *“lifting himself up against the Lord of heaven”* proves this to be true (Dan.5:22-23).

What is revealed, however, is that the end of the Chaldean Babylon Empire was about to take place that very night! And, this event marked the fulfillment of God’s purpose and decree where world political leadership and authority is concerned.

This event was prophesied some 145 years earlier through Isaiah. Therefore, as the sun set that night it went down on, not only Belshazzar’s reign as the king of Babylon, but also his entire earthly life. Then it rose to meet the dawn of the reign of Darius the king of the Medes -- who came in and conquered the Chaldeans that very same night. This is, in essence, what is communicated to Belshazzar through Daniel whom he called in before him to interpret the divine writing upon the wall. Seeing this take place terrified Belshazzar (see Dan.5:5-7, 25-28). The message of the interpretation of the writing declared that he was about to experience, first hand, the whole truth of his father’s confession of true repentance and faith (Dan.4:34-37).

**In this hour of political decision we all would do well to remember this truth of God!**

*For Christ's glory only!  
A. Carpenter*

## **Prayer Requests**

### **Campers**

Here we are in yet another September. What a wonderful month it is as the warmth of the summer still lingers and the beginnings of the beauties of Autumn come into view. And yet, there is in a real way the sad sounds of silence that surround us where the chatter and laughter of the children are noticeably absent. Our heart's prayers are still afresh with memories of different individual boys and girls that have especially affected us from the summer's camp sessions. We covet your ongoing prayers for all the kids that God has sent to us, as well as, your continual prayers for us. Thank you all in advance for this vital aspect of the life of this ministry!

### **The Lake Project**

The work on the lake is yet to be completed. We need your prayers and your financial support in order to see this project to its end. There is a real spiritual battle that is raging around this project. The contractor that we hired for the task has not fulfilled his promises in meeting his own proclaimed deadlines in his finishing the work that needs to be done. What has been done (the replacing of the water lines), we have been very pleased with the quality of the work, but the costs in performing it have come in way over what was originally projected (\$8000.00 more, to be exact). This sort of thing is very frustrating to the flesh of even the most sanctified Christian. Walking in the Holy Spirit is put to a real test of stress, to say the least! Now, in order to keep the overall cost of the entire project within its originally intended budget it will require the expense of replacing our lake having to come in under the amount of its projection. Please be in prayer with us regarding this real concern of our hearts. Pray for us (!) that we not be overcome and overpowered by our own flesh in how this whole matter has already played out, and will ultimately be finished. Trusting in God with all our hearts, and not leaning on our own understanding, is not an option where truly walking in the Spirit and not walking in the flesh is concerned.

### **A Lesson of Grace**

Throughout the years at Del-Haven, we have been faced with different challenges in working with children who come from an environment of crime. Stealing, threats of violence, and no respect for authority are some of the challenges we often face during our camps for older kids (9to12). This year presented us with an occurrence of stealing during the second older girl's camp. One of our counselors had one of her possessions stolen, this was not the first time this particular counselor has had something go missing. We talked to each girl separately in an effort to reclaim the property, but to no avail. Not a single girl claimed to have seen anything. A cabin search eventually turned the item up in a girl's bag. It was obvious that this girl did not know how the item got in her bag. It was then, that the girls began to speak, but only in private, about who had stolen the item. All of them knew, but were afraid to tell the truth in the beginning. They expressed a fear of the consequences of "ratting" on these two girls. When the accused girls were confronted, they were in all out denial at first. After about 30 min., an admission was made. Both of these girls have mothers who are in prison and know very well the consequences of crime. We could have sent them home, filed a police report, etc., but grace was the lesson of the day. We had a wonderful opportunity to deal with these girls and to pray with them. We also had a good opportunity to talk to all of the girls about this situation. What a great correlation we were able to make concerning the grace of God by our Lord Jesus who died for sins! Please pray for these two girls, Sentra and Tyra, that the Lord will truly reveal Himself to their hearts and turn them from a lifestyle of crime.

*"Help us, O God of our salvation!  
For the glory of your name -- deliver us" Ps.79:9*