

September 10 Answers

- 1) The fall of Babylon and the rise of Medo-Persia. The Persian army advanced against Babylon, and the commander, **Ugbaru**, besieged the city. Yet Belshazzar, the grandson of Nebuchadnezzar, was not concerned. To show his confidence in the city's defenses, Belshazzar held a great **feast** for his nobles. In his insolence, he called for the gold and silver vessels from God's **temple** and drank wine from them while praising the gods of Babylon. Then the fingers of a hand appeared and wrote on the wall, and Daniel was brought before the king. Daniel **rebuked** Belshazzar, but he wouldn't repent. That very night Belshazzar was killed, and the Babylonian empire fell to Darius the **Mede**. This teaches us the folly of **rejecting** the godly example of our parents. God took care of Daniel during the transition of empires, and he distinguished himself among the rulers and leaders because of his "**excellent** spirit" (Dan 6:3). Darius was so impressed that he planned to appoint Daniel over the entire empire. This led to jealousy from the other officials and satraps, and they conspired to kill Daniel (Dan 6:3). This teaches us that **trials** come to even the most godly of men (cf. Ezek 14:14). Yet God is faithful. If we trust and obey, God will watch over us and deliver us from the enemy.