## Belshazzar Discussion

Remember that these monologues are essentially historical fiction, based on the Scripture but filling in plausible subjective details, both emotional responses and motivations. Your first task is to decide if they are reasonable.

What is the appeal of throwing a massive party?

Would a sober and discerning ruler likely have gotten consultation before bringing out the captured vessels from the Temple in Jerusalem?

Does alcohol have a prominent place in meetings of powerful people both in Biblical times and today?

Do you think it may often have an effect on decisions made by leaders?

Is it easy for someone who grew up in an established Empire to understand what was involved in maintaining it, much less creating it?

Why did the LORD allow the rule of the Babylonian dynasty to end in this way?

The queen remembered Daniel, who was then called up. How did he respond to the summons?

Does it sound like he had been waiting for this opportunity?

Is Belshazzar being punished for one act of sacrilege?

Might he have benefitted from more curiosity about the life of his illustrious grandfather and the unusual events of his life?

Is it likely that Nebuchadnezzar told his children and grandchildren about his period of insanity followed by repentance and worship of the god of Heaven?

Is it sometimes good to share our failures with the next generation?

What keeps us from looking into the faith stories of those who have gone on before us?

It is considered sophisticated by some to make fun of "prophets of doom." What is behind that behavior?

Is it easy or hard to do wrong things?

Why is that?

Is it true that some day it will be too late to change?

Why do we ignore that danger?