



And the pots and shovels... and all of the copper vessels with which they had served, they took. And the pans...

8. Daniel 1:1-2

בְּשָׁנָה שְׁלוּשׁ לְמַלְכוּת יְהוֹיָקִים מֶלֶךְ יְהוּדָה בָּא נְבוּכַדְנֶצַּר מֶלֶךְ בָּבֶל יְרוּשָׁלַם וַיִּצֶר עָלֶיהָ: וַיִּתֶּן ד' בְּיָדוֹ אֶת יְהוֹיָקִים מֶלֶךְ יְהוּדָה וּמִקְצַת כְּלֵי בֵּית הָאֱלֹקִים וַיְבִיאֵם אֶרֶץ שֹׁנֶעַר בֵּית אֱלֹהֵיו [חול] וְאֶת הַכֵּלִים הַבִּיא בֵּית אוֹצַר אֱלֹהֵיו [חול]:

In the third year of the reign of Yehoyakim, King of Judea, Nevuchadnezzar King of Babylon came to Jerusalem, and besieged her. And Gd gave Yehoyakim, King of Judea, into his hand, with some of the vessels of the house of Gd. And he brought them to Shinar, to the house of his god, and he brought the vessels into the store of his god.

9. Daniel 5:1-2

בְּלִשְׁאֲצָר מֶלֶכָּא עָבַד לַחֶם רַב לְרַבְרַבְנוּהִי אֶלְפָּא וְלִקְבֵּל אֶלְפָּא חֲמָרָא שְׂתֵּה: בְּלִשְׁאֲצָר אָמַר בְּטַעַם חֲמָרָא לְהִתְיָה לְמַאֲנֵי דְהָבָא וְכִסְפָּא דִּי הִנָּפֵק נְבוּכַדְנֶצַּר אָבוּהִי מִן הִיכְלָא דִּי בִירוּשָׁלַם וַיִּשְׁתֹּן בְּהוֹן...

King Belshazzar made a great meal for his one thousand leaders, and he drank wine opposite one thousand. Because of the wine, Belshazzar said to bring the gold and silver vessels which his father Nevuchadnezzar had taken out of the palace in Jerusalem, and they would drink with them...

Approach 2: Depraved Twins: Achashverosh and Belshazzar

10. Daniel 5:10-11

מִלְּקִטָּא לִקְבֵּל מִלֵּי מֶלֶכָּא וְרַבְרַבְנוּהִי לְבֵּית מִשְׁתָּנָא עֲלֵת, עָנָת מִלְּקִטָּא וְאֶמְרַת מֶלֶכָּא לְעֵלְמִין חֲזִי אַל יִבְהִלּוּךְ רַעֲיוֹנֶךָ וַיִּנָּדֶךְ אַל יִשְׁתַּנּוּ: אִיתִי גְבַר בְּמַלְכוּתֶךָ...

At the word of the king and his leaders, the queen came to the feast. The queen declared and said: May the king live forever! Do not be frightened by your thoughts, and let your face not change. There is a man in your empire...

11. Daniel 5:17

בְּאִדְנִין עָנָה דְנִיָּאל וְאָמַר קֳדָם מֶלֶכָּא "מִתְנַתֵּךְ לָךְ לְהוֹיָן וַיִּבְרַחְתִּיךָ לְאַחֲרֵן הֵב, בְּרַם כְּתָבָא אֶקְרָא לְמֶלֶכָּא וּפְשָׁרָא אֶהוּדְעָנָה:"
Then Daniel declared before the king, "Keep your gifts, and give your spoils to others, but I will read the text to the king, and I will tell him the meaning."

12. Talmud, Megilah 12b

"ויקצף המלך מאד" אמאי דלקה ביה כולי האי? אמר רבא: שלחה ליה: בר אהוריריה דאבא! אבא לקבל אלפא חמרא שתי ולא רוי וההוא גברא אשתטי בחמריה

"And the king was very angry." Why was he so upset? Rava said: She sent to him, "Son of my father's stable boy! My father drank the equal of one thousand men and was not intoxicated, and this man becomes foolish in his wine."

Approach 3: Our arc of defeat and victory

13. Talmud, Ketuvot 110b-111a

אמר רב יהודה: כל העולה מבבל לארץ ישראל עובר בעשה שנאמר (ירמי' כז:כב) "בבלה יובאו ושמה יהיו עד יום פקדי אותם נאם ד'".
ורבי זירא? ההוא בכלי שרת כתיב. ורב יהודה? כתיב קרא אחרינא...

Rav Yehudah said: Anyone who ascends from Babylon to the Land of Israel violates a commandment, as it says, "They will be brought to Babylon, and there they will be until the day I recall them; this is the word of Gd." And what did Rabbi Zeira think? That is written regarding the vessels of service. And Rav Yehudah? He brought another verse...

14. Yirmiyahu 27:21-22

כִּי כֹה אָמַר ד' אֱלֹקֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל עַל הַכֵּלִים הַנּוֹתָרִים בֵּית ד' וּבֵּית מֶלֶךְ יְהוּדָה וִירוּשָׁלַם: בְּכֵלָה יוֹבְאוּ וְשָׁמָּה יִהְיוּ עַד יוֹם פְּקֻדֵי אֲתֶם נְאֻם ד'...
For so says Gd, Lord of Israel, regarding the vessels that remain in the house of Gd and in the house of the king of Judah and Jerusalem. They will be brought to Babylon, and there they will be until the day I recall them...

15. Ezra 1:7

וְהַמֶּלֶךְ כּוֹרֶשׁ הוֹצִיא אֶת כְּלֵי בֵּית ד' אֲשֶׁר הוֹצִיא נְבוּכַדְנֶצַּר מִירוּשָׁלַם וַיִּתְּנֵם בְּבֵית אֱלֹהֵיו [חול]:
And King Cyrus brought out the vessels of the house of Gd which Nevuchadnezzar had taken from Jerusalem, placing them in the house of his god.

16. Yeshayah 43:14

כֹּה אָמַר ד' גֹּאֲלֶכֶם קְדוֹשׁ יִשְׂרָאֵל: לְמַעַנְכֶם שְׁלַחְתִּי בְכֵלָה...
So declares Gd, your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel. I have sent to Babylon for you...