Ancient Aramaic Script of Mene Mene Tekel Uparsin

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Mene

Derived from the Aramaic *Mena* meaning "to number". Used to indicate money also.

Tekel

Derived from the Aramaic *Teqal* meaning "to weigh".

Uparsin

Plural derived from the Aramaic singular Peres meaning "divided".

The problem was not in the understanding of the words, but in their meaning. The words are Aramaic, referring to a series of weights or monetary units. However, their placement without context on a wall made the words meaningless to the king and his wise men. To understand the revelation, the ultimate wise man, one who God endowed with wisdom, was called for.