

between Alexander and his successors, so this view has not seemed ~~xxx~~ satisfactory, and is not accepted. But the view after various attempts on the part of those who hold the first approach, who think this must refer to Antiochus, the conclusion to which they came, which finally was accepted by practically all of them was this: The first kingdom is Nebu. It says, Thou, O King art the head of gold. Nebu. and his immediate successors. The second is the empire of the Medes, Darius the Mede. The third is the empire of the Persians, and the fourth is the Greek kingdom, from which A.E. came. Now that is the view which practically all critical scholars hold today. And so that is the view which Farrar advanced so strangely in the expositor's Bible, and that is the view which consider objectively and reasonably to see whether it is a correct interpretation. Now, of course, one difficulty with it is that there never was such a thing as a Median empire after the Babylonian empire was destroyed. There never was such a thing. That's one difficulty. But of course, if you take the critical view that Daniel was written in the time of the Maccabees, how would they know whether there had been or hadn't? So they might easily have made a bad mistake. After all, the book tells us about a king, called Darius the Mede, and nobody knows ~~xxxxxxx~~ who that king was. There are various theories about it, conservatives have various theories, but they are not united on any one theory. And the liberals say, there never was such a man as Darius the Mede. Babylon was conquered by ~~Cyrus~~ Cyrus, and Cyrus' empire succeeded the Babylonian empire, but, they say, the author in Maccabean times of the book of Daniel thought there was a Median kingdom between the Babylonian kingdom, and the Persian kingdom, and so he talks about a king Darius the Mede, who is very prominent in chapter 6. And so they say, he believed he was wrong in his impression of history, he believed there was a Median kingdom, which there never was. Of course, there was actually a Median kingdom. The Medes were a powerful empire at the time of Nebu, and somewhat before. An empire which did not include Babylon, or the Babylonian area, but then the Persians rode to supremacy within the Median empire, and Cyrus the Persian became head of the Median empire, so that it became a Medo-Persian