

Now this is not a question of objective evidence that there was a Median empire, everybody agrees there was. But it is a question of objective evidence in the book that that is what the writer of the book believed it, and we have examined the basis on which they could think it, and the basis is the reference to a king called Darius the Mede. That's really the only basis, and that's a strong one but it is really the only one. ~~There~~ Their other arguments are really rebuttal arguments. That is their one strong argument. Now ~~is~~ over against their ~~one~~ strong argument the arguments are presented that the author of the book speaks of one animal as being Media and Persia together in ch.8, which is a very strong argument. You'd expect more than that, between his content. And that he speaks of ~~the kingdom divided~~ divided and given to the Medes and the Persians, which doesn't suggest that it means it is going to be given to the Medes for the next empire, and then Persians for one after that. If he was going to do ~~that~~ that he might have said, give it to the Medes and the Persians and the Greeks. And then most important of all, that Darius the Mede when he is ruling, three times they speak of the law of the Medes and the Persians. It doesn't suggest that the Persians is a rival empire, that someday is going to destroy his empire, but rather that the two are one unit. So that we have here three things which perhaps would not be enough to prove that there was a Medo-Persian empire instead of a Median empire and a Persian, if we didn't know what the facts were, but that having been the fact, they are pretty strong evidences against the author of the book of Daniel having had things all mixed up, and thought there actually were two distinct empires, instead of one. If he did, why would he ever use these terms in these three different instances this way....end of D 22

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So here we come back again for rebuttal, back again to the conservatives, that is to say, we have noted the liberal rebuttals of the conservative argument which are not, I think, very strong, but we have noticed a specific liberal argument which is pretty strong, that is this Darius the Mede. Who is he? We looked in the pages of history as known to us and we find no reference to any king called Darius the Mede. We look in our archaeological records, and we find that Cyrus