

Babylonian empire." What does it say? It says, "which was made king, over the realm of the Chaldeans." Now that, I submit to you, is a very very strange way to speak of a conqueror, a great king who conquered another nation, and seized it, "who was made king over the realm of the Chaldeans." But it exactly fits with the possibility that the Persian king conquered. Maybe the ~~first~~ <sup>Persian</sup> king didn't even come. He sent an army, and he sent representatives to do it. Maybe he wasn't personally present at all. But it was his force, his ... 4.... his command that did it, maybe he was present, maybe not, but that he set this man in charge over this area, and he would be glad to propitiate the Medes by giving a very important power and position to one of them, "which was made king." Now these two phrases about Darius becoming king, and the lack of any specific statement about Darius being a man who seized or conquered, or anything like that, looks very much in the direction of the author of the book knowing the true history that Cyrus was the conqueror, and referring here to the man who became the ruler in Babylon, rather than to the man who conquered Babylon. Yes?.....AAM: A very ~~good~~ good point. And the only question is, what is word translated 'earth' there? And if you look it up in ~~the~~ the aramaic you will find that it is the parallel to the Hebrew eres, which may mean the whole earth, but may mean a land, and could be used for the old Babylonian empire, a part of the Persian empire, about a third of the Persian empire. Yes, the Assyrians had conquered many peoples and nations, and they had conquered them and mixed them up, they moved some over here, and some over to there to get so that they could control them better, and then the Babylonians ~~xx~~ did the same thing. They conquered the Assyrian empire and they did more of that. And now in what was the old Babylonian empire there were quite a number of distinct nations, so that it could be used for that portion of the empire not at all unsuitably. Yes?.....AAM: Yes, that's an interesting thing too, that 9:1 does not say, "And Darius, the Median emperor, Darius the king of the Medes." It is Darius of the seed of the Medes who was made king over the realm of the Chaldeans. ~~xxx~~ That certainly does not say there wasn't a Median empire, but it looks as if he is not here saying there is. He is here speaking about this man's blood, rather than speaking about the