

## CONTENTS

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS .....	iv
FIGURES .....	viii
TABLES .....	ix
ABSTRACT .....	x
PREFACE .....	xi
CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION .....	1
Statement of the Issue .....	2
Attempts at Identification .....	2
Attacks on Daniel .....	7
Areas of Criticism.....	9
Direction of the Research.....	13
Outline of the Dissertation.....	13
Questions for Inquiry.....	13
Assumptions of Author.....	16
Clarification of Terms .....	19
Significance of the Study .....	24
CHAPTER 2: SURVEY OF LITERATURE.....	27
Historical Literature .....	27
Ancient Works.....	27
Classical Works .....	30
Modern Works.....	32
Theological Literature.....	35
Liberal Critical Views of the Book of Daniel .....	35
Orthodox Views of the Book of Daniel.....	37
Specific Literature.....	39
Books Concerning Darius the Mede.....	39
Other Works Concerning Darius the Mede .....	41

CHAPTER 3: DESIGN AND METHODOLOGY OF RESEARCH.....	43
Current Methods of Personal Identification .....	44
Personal Identification in Criminal Investigations.....	44
Personal Identification in the Health Industry.....	45
Personal Identification in Ancient Inscriptions.....	46
Proposed Method of Personal Identification .....	46
Step One: Categories of Information.....	48
Step Two: List of Potential Candidates.....	51
Step Three: Collection of Qualifying Data .....	51
Step Four: Charting of Qualifying Data.....	52
Step Five: Collection of Distinguishing Data .....	53
Step Six: Charting of Distinguishing Data .....	53
Step Seven: Assessment of Grade of Identification.....	54
 CHAPTER 4: EVIDENCE CONCERNING THE CANDIDATES.....	 55
Phase One: Qualifying Categories .....	55
1. Data Concerning Astyages.....	56
2. Data Concerning Cambyses II.....	60
3. Data Concerning Cyaxares (II).....	62
4. Data Concerning Cyrus the Great .....	64
5. Data Concerning Darius the Great .....	67
6. Data Concerning Gobryas / Ugbaru / Gubaru.....	68
Gobryas.....	69
Ugbaru.....	70
Gubaru (of the Nabonidus Chronicle).....	70
Personal Data Sheets and Personal Data Chart .....	72
Phase Two: Distinguishing Categories .....	73
Cyrus the Great .....	74
4. Could Cyrus be described as a “Mede”?.....	77
5. Was Cyrus a son of Ahasuerus?.....	90
6. Did Cyrus rule as “King of the Chaldeans”? .....	99
The Kingdom of the Chaldeans .....	99
Evidence of Cyrus’ Rule in 538 BC .....	101
Gubaru .....	102
4. Could Gubaru be described as a “Mede”? .....	105
5. Was Gubaru a son of Ahasuerus?.....	106
6. Did Gubaru rule as “King of the Chaldeans”?.....	106
The Kingdom of the Chaldeans .....	106
Evidence of Gubaru’s Rule in 538 BC .....	107
Report of the Nabonidus Chronicle .....	120
Personal Data Sheets and Personal Data Chart .....	121
Assessment of a Grade of Identification .....	121
Cyrus’ Grade of Identification.....	122
Gubaru’s Grade of Identification.....	123

CHAPTER 5: DOUBLE PERSPECTIVES: DARIUS, NAMELY, CYRUS.....	125
Historical Links of Cyrus to "Darius the Mede" .....	126
Throne Names .....	127
Mesopotamian Kings.....	130
Cyrus' Name.....	139
Darius' Name.....	143
Ancient Pagan Divination.....	153
The Persian Mule, Enslaver of Babylon.....	153
The Mule, King of the Medes.....	154
The Mule King, Has No Heir .....	155
The Mule King, of an Inferior Breed.....	156
The Mule Queen, of a Superior Breed.....	158
Biblical Portrayal of Cyrus as "Darius the Mede" .....	158
Daniel 5:30-31 .....	159
Daniel 6 .....	164
Daniel 6:28 .....	168
Daniel 9:1 .....	175
Daniel 10:1 .....	181
Daniel 11:1-2.....	182
Conclusion .....	185
APPENDICES	
A    Biblical Data on Rule of Darius the Mede .....	186
B    Nabonidus Chronicle.....	189
C    Nabonidus Cylinder.....	202
D    Verse Account of Nabonidus .....	209
E    Harran Inscriptions of Nabonidus .....	217
F    Cyrus Cylinder .....	223
G    Herodotus .....	232
H    Dion .....	239
I    Chronology of Titulature of Cyrus the Great .....	240
J    Chronology of Titulature of Cambyses II .....	244
K    Cuneiform Data Concerning Gubaru and Ugbaru.....	246
L    Personal Data Sheets .....	249
M    Personal Data Charts .....	255
N    Mede and Persian Kings.....	256
BIBLIOGRAPHY .....	258
INDEX .....	271

## ABSTRACT

### IDENTIFICATION OF DARIUS THE MEDE

George R. Law

Dr. Gilbert Braithwaite, Advisory Committee Chairman

Darius the Mede was the king infamous for condemning Daniel to the Lions' Den (Dan 6). But according to secular historians, the king called "Darius the Mede" is unknown to history, and there is no room for his reign between the reigns of Nabonidus and Cyrus the Great. This issue sets modern critical scholars against those holding to the historicity and veracity of the Word of God. If these critical conclusions are accepted, then Daniel and his book are relegated to a work of fiction which consequently undermines the credibility of those, including Jesus Christ, who confirmed Daniel's historicity.

The question arising from this controversy is "Who was this king called 'Darius the Mede'?" The theory of this author is that Darius the Mede is the name which the author of Daniel purposefully used when this king was acting as an agent of God executing God's prophetic judgment on the Chaldeans; and conversely, when this king was acting as an agent of God obeying God's prophetic commands to release the Jews and to rebuild Jerusalem and its Temple, then this king was called by the name which was given to him almost two hundred years earlier in Isaiah's prophecy, the name "Cyrus."

This dissertation provides a method for identifying Darius the Mede. The list of six potential candidates includes the following: 1) Astyages, 2) Cambyses II, 3) Cyaxares (II), 4) Cyrus the Great, 5) Darius the Great, and 6) Gubaru. This investigational research method collects informational data from the following six categories: 1. Gender; 2. Socio-political classification; 3. Age at fall of Babylon; 4. Heritage; 5. Relations; and 6. Titles. Two phases of data collection for six specific questions qualify and distinguish the candidates. Finally, based on the quality of the evidence, a Grade of Identification is computed describing the reliability of a candidate's identification as Darius the Mede. This method has helped to identify the strongest candidate to be identified as Darius the Mede.

The dissertation's final analysis includes discussions concerning the fit of the most likely candidate with some interesting details found in history and in the book of Daniel.