

UMI

Chap. I.

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THE
HISTORY
 OF THE
WORLD.

BOOK III. Part I.

FROM

The Destruction of Jerusalem unto
 Philip of Macedon.

CHAP. I.

*The time from the Destruction of Jerusalem
 to the Assyrian Fall.*

§. I. **T**HE Connexion of Sacred and Profane
 History. §. Before the Grecian Olym-
 piads, and the Eastern Date from
 Nabonassar, the Course of Time had
 no beaten Path, as after it had more certain Marks;
 yet from Jerusalem's Destruction, the former, with
 the

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the succeeding Ages, are more clearly discern'd in their Connection. The harm which some have found in the years of the overgrown Monarchies, doth preserve their Names, which otherwise might have been forgotten, but cannot shew the Year of such a King, in which any thing expressed in Scripture was done. Neither could any certainty be gathered from the late Kings of the *Assyrians*, &c. if *Nebuchadnezzar's* Reign had not been precisely applied to the years of *Jebojakim*, and *Zedekiah*. Hence have we the first light to discover how to connect Sacred and Profane Histories; for *Judah's* Seventy years Captivity begin under *Nebuchadnezzar*, and ending the first of *Cyrus*, directs us backward and forward. This first year of *Cyrus*, is joyned with the first of the fifty fifth Olympiad. And that he Reigned twenty three year before his Monarchy, and seven after, is apparent; and giving them four hundred and eight year between *Troy's* Fall, and *Iphetus's* restoring the Olympiads, we may arrive to the knowledge of the true *Grecian* Antiquities. For other Nations, let St. *Augustine* be trusted.

§. 2. The Seventy Years of *Babylonian* Captivity being our chief mark of direction, we are to inform our selves truly therein. Some begin from *Jeconias's* Captivity, eleven year before *Zedekiah*; citing *Ezek. 40. 1.* *Bernaldus* judgeth that it began the first of *Nebuchadnezzar*, and fourth of *Joakim*; citing *2 Chron. 36.* and *Dan. 1. Matth. 1. 11.* but cannot thus make it good. Wretched *Porphyrie* scoffeth at St. *Matth. 1. 11.* not knowing *Josias's* Sons had divers Names, as *Epiphanius* shewed. The Wretch affirmeth the Book of *Daniel* was written long after his death, at or near the time of *Antiochus Epiphanes*, whom *Eusebius*, *Apollonius*, &c. have answered. And the Seventy Interpreters Translated it out of *Hebrew*, one hundred year before that. *Jaddus* the High-

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High-Priest also shewed the Book to the Great *Alexander*, &c. True it is, the *Jews* ascribe it to *Esdra*s, and equal it not to the Prophet, but put it among the *Hagiographs*, or Holy Books; which are *Daniel*, *Psalms*, *Job*, *Proverbs*, *Canticles*, *Ruth*, *Lamentations*, *Ecclesiastes*, *Hester*, *Nebemiab*, and *Chronicles*. Our Christian Councils and Fathers acknowledge it Canonical; and our Saviour who cited no *Apocrypha*, cited it as a proof exceeding all.

§. 3. That the Seventy Years Captivity began at *Jerusalem's* destruction, not *Jeconias's* Captivity, is clear; *Jeremiah* himself, explained himself, and *Daniel*, cited by some to the contrary. Compare *Chap. 25. 9, 11, 12.* with *Chap. 29. 10.* where, in the first place, he expressly beginneth the Captivity of Seventy years, at *Jerusalem's* Destruction; and thereof certifies the Captivity in the second place. So also it is understood by themselves, *2 Chron. 36. 19, 20, 21.* So *Dan. 9. 2.* the Seventy years referred to *Jerusalem's* Desolation.

§. 4. Touching the King's Reigning in *Babylon* those seventy Years, and the time of each, help us a little to the times before or after; neither it seems were most of their Acts worth Recording. For as *Nebuchadnezzar's* latter times were either in delights, or madness, so his Posterity grew slothful, as Sons whose Fathers have purchased enough to their hands; yet let us consider of Men's Opinions therein, and judge as we see cause. The surest Opinion, is theirs which follow the Scripture; which Name only *Nebuchadnezzar*, *Evilmerodach*, and *Balthasar* and *Jeremy*, which seemeth to limit the Dominion of *Babel*, to Father, Son, and Grandson. To qualifie this, I see no necessity, except Profane Authors were constant and probable in more Successions, which they are not. *Josephus* reckons five, citing *Berosus*; but far otherwise than doth *Jerom*, &c.

Anius Metasthenes nameth five, of which, the three last were Brethren; but neither he, nor the rest, can qualifie *Jeremiah*.

§. 5. *Scaliger's* Opinion is here handled, and disproved, beginning the seventieth year from *Jechonias's* transportation: and giving *Evilmerodach* but two years, *Balthasar* one, of which he maketh four, spent in his protection, and maketh him a Son of *Nebuchadnezzar's* Daughter. But as *Jeremiah's* speech of *Evilmerodach's* raising up *Jechonias*, argueth longer time, so his speaking expressly of *Nebuchadnezzar's* Sons in the Succession. So *Daniel* employ'd in so high a Place by the King, and after falling to a private Life, could not have been forgotten of him in two year, or less. *Scaliger* also finds one *Nabonidus* after *Balthasar*, and giveth him seventeen years, and maketh him *Darius Medus*, whom others make the same with *Balthasar*, to make good *Berosus*, whom *Scaliger* his chief Patron, herein forsaketh. His grounds are, one, out of *Daniel* §. 31. where *Darius* is not said to win, but receive the Kingdom; makes no strong conclusion, &c. His other is out of *Metasthenes* in *Eusebius*, calling *Nabonidus* a *Mede*, but I find it not; and if I did, I would little regard it, considering his other improbable Reports with it. Besides, the Opinion agreeth hardly with Scripture, which saith, *the Kingdom should be divided between the Medes and Persians*. So that either *Darius* was not *Nabonidus*, or else bethink us what *Persian* shared with him. Nay, both the Nations made the Empire, as *Daniel's* Ram sheweth; and the *Greeks* call the Wars made by *Xerxes*, the Wars of the *Medes*. So that the Notion of the Chronologers holding *Darius* Partner in *Cyrus's* Victories, was not well condemn'd.

§. 6. *Lyra*, and others, who hold those only named in Scripture, to have reigned in *Babylon* during those Seventy years, I esteem more conformable to Reason.

son. For the years of their Reign, it is clear, that *Evilmerodach* began to Reign, 2 Kings 25. 27. Jer. 52. 31. in the Thirty Seventh year of *Jechonias's* Captivity, from which, deduct *Zedekiah's* Eleventh year, when the City was taken, there remained Twenty Six of the Seventy. How to distribute the other Forty four to the succeeding Kings, is not so needful, as long as the total Sum is certain. Yet I will be bold to conjecture, as others have done, giving to *Balthasar* Seventeen years, with *Josephus*; so there remain Twenty Seven, of which one may be taken away for the First of *Darius*; so Twenty six remain for *Evilmerodach*: Besides *Josephus*, all that confound *Balthasar* and *Nabonidus*, give him Seventeen Years; and *Daniel's* being grown out of *Balthasar's* Knowledge, who yet had served him his Third year, argueth some long time between. That *Evilmerodach* Reigned some good time, is probable, by *Jechonias's* favour under him; and some of great judgment, have given him Twenty three years, and more might be given as well as that.

§. 7. Touching the actions of these Kings. *Nebuchadnezzar's* former years were Victorious. In his Nineteenth year he won *Jerusalem* and proud *Tyrus*, *Esa.* 23. 15. The same year *Egypt* was next aimed at, as the fairest Mark; but the petty Nations about *Judab*, who desired the Ruin thereof, were to be made sure, for fear of incommoding his Return from *Egypt*, if he succeeded not. All these ill Neighbours which imagined to gain by *Judab's* fall as *Tyrus* had, and had followed the Camp as Ravens, were suddenly opposed by *Nebuchadnezzar*, as the Lord had threatned, and brought into the Condition *Judab* was in, *Esa.* 16. 14.

§. 8. *Nebuchadnezzar* having freed the Coast behind him, through *Syria* and *Arabia*, leaving neither Friend to *Egypt*, nor Foe to himself, able to give impediment to his Proceeding or Retreat, he pre-

presently took it in hand, and according to our Three great Prophets, had a Victorious Conquest of Egypt, although some good Authors following Herodotus and Diodore, extenuate it to a Ravage without Conquest; and that Apries, or Hophra their King, was slain after in an Insurrection of his Subjects, and Amasis chosen to succeed. But Herodotus and Diodorus are herein contradicted by such Authority as Force our Belief, as *Esa.* 20. 4, 5, 6. *Jer.* 43. 10. and 44. and 46. 25, 26. So *Ezek.* 29. 26. 30. and 32. 31. So that Junius, who in one place took Hophra's Enemies to be Amasis and his Fellows, yet on *Jer.* 44. 30. he Confessed the Egyptian Priests had abused Herodotus. Josephus also herein is rather to be believed, reporting Egypt's Conquests, and slaying of the King by Nebuchadnezzar, who appointed another in his stead; all which is consonant to the Prophets.

§. 9. Nebuchadnezzar's Victories after the Conquest of Syria, more enlarged his Dominions than his former; for besides the Conquest of Egypt, we are bound to believe he Conquered Phut, and Lud, and other Nations, as it seemeth, even to Mauritania. Hitherto, Egypt had flourished Fifteen hundred Eighty years; but from henceforth, Forty years under a Vice-Roy, and was long after in recovering strength, but never to her Antient Glory, *Esa.* 19. 11. *Ezek.* 29. 13. &c.

§. 10. Nebuchadnezzar's Actions are diversly dated, some from the beginning of his Reign, whose first year ran with part of Jehojakim's Third, when Daniel was carried Captive. Another date was from the beginning of his Empire, which was after the Conquest of Egypt, as his Dream, *Dan.* 2. 1. which could not be the Second years Reign, considering the third then being up of Daniel, before he stood before the King, as also that Nebuchadnezzar was yet no such King, as he was when Daniel declared the Dream, &c.

&c. After the Conquest of Egypt, Ninive, which Rebelled, was destroyed by him, as Nabum foretold; whose Prophecy went between the destruction of Egypt and Ninive.

§. 11. Nebuchadnezzar's last Times are found only in Daniel, as his Buildings in Babel, *cap.* 4. 27. wherein he glorified so much; and no marvel if Josephus's report out of Berosus, be true, of an Orchard supported by Arches, as high as Mountains, reared in Fifteen days. But his over-valuing his own Greatness, abased him as low; and the Lord, for his presuming to erect an Image to be worshipped to his dishonour, whom he had before acknowledged, cast such contempt upon him, as never befel such a Man. For, after the Lord had convinced him by the miraculous cooling of his Furnace, and by a second Dream, warned him, and given him one year respite, he had Human Sense taken from him, &c. Upon his restoring, Augustine and others, held him faved.

§. 12. Evilmerodach succeeded, in whose Nineteenth year ended the Fortieth year of Egypt's Desolation, and now brake the Babylonian Yoak under Amasis their King. This fell out while Astyages the Mede, Grand-Father to Cyrus, held War with Evilmerodach, and had the better, which emboldened Egypt. Astyages died in the Ninth year of Evilmerodach, and left the Medes and Persians in Arms against Evilmerodach, whom also they slew.

§. 13. A conjecture how it might be that in Nebuchadnezzar's Seven Years of Madnes, Niglifar might govern by his Wife Nitocris's means, Nebuchadnezzar's Daughter and Labassardach after him, but slain after Nine Months, presently before Nebuchadnezzar's Restauration.

C H A P. II.

The Persians greatness, how it grew.

§. 1. **T**HAT the Medes were chief in the overthrow of *Babylon*, the infallible Witness of Two great Prophets, maketh good, *Esa.* 13 17. *Fer.* 51. 11. 28. according to which, *Julius Africanus* proveth *Babel* was taken before *Cyrus* began to Reign. So that the Empire lost by *Balthassar*, the last of *Belochus's* Line, fell to *Cyaxares* or *Darius Medus*, the last of *Arbaces's* Race, who succeeded his Father *Astyages*, &c.

§. 2. *Cyrus*, to whom alone the *Greeks* ascribe the Conquest of *Babel*, was thought immediate Successor to *Astyages*, by some who deny he had any other Son than this *Cyrus* Son of *Mandane* his Daughter. *Viginer* also probably reasoneth, that *Astyages* had no such Son as *Darius*, being unknown to so many Authors there named. But Negative Arguments from Authors, are of no force and necessity. Either *Astyages* must be *Darius*, in *Daniel* 9. which his Time will not suffer, or another Successor before *Cyrus* must be granted, who for Life commanded all. Yet in regard he was Old, and followed not the Wars in Person, but *Cyrus* as his Lieutenant, did all; the *Greeks*, who heard only of him, ascribed all to him; as did the *Persians*, in Honour to him, who shortly brought all to them.

§. 3. *Xenophon's* Report of the Wars between the *Assyrians* and the *Medes*, and *Persians*. The *Assyrians* having command of so many Countries, desired to bring under the *Medes* and *Persians*. Knowing therefore their great strength, he perswaded *Cræsus*, the rich and strong King of *Lydia*, to join with him, which he easily yielded, for the quarrel to

to the *Medes*, who had warred against *Alyattes* his Father. These together compose an Army of Two Hundred Thousand Foot and Sixty Thousand Horse, but are overthrown by *Darius*; and *Cyaxares* King of the *Medes*, and *Cyrus* General of the *Persian* Forces, and the *Assyrian* King slain; so that many *Assyrians* revolted, and *Babylon* was glad, for her security, to get mercenary strength, while *Cyrus* pursueth his Victory to lesser *Asia*, and took *Cræsus* Prisoner. After this followed the Attempt at *Babylon*, *Cyaxares* bearing the Charge, and *Cyrus* being Leader, &c.

§. 4. *Achæmenes* govern'd in *Persia*, when *Arbaces* did the like in *Media*, and both joined with *Belochus* against *Sardanapalus*, and after held *Persia* for himself, as the other did *Media* and *Babylon*; yet *Arbaces's* absolute Command decayed 'till *Deioces* Onehundred fortys year after, when *Salmanassar* Reigned in *Syria*; so that neither the *Medes* nor *Persians* found it fit to stir. From *Deioces* to *Astyages*, there past above Ninety years, in which time *Phraortes* Reigned, but not like to have Conquered *Persia*, as *Herodotus* Writ. For *Susiana* was under *Daniel's* Charge for *Nebuchadnezzar*; who also would hardly have ventured into *Syria* and *Egypt*, leaving such an Enemy on his Back. It seemeth, the Successors of *Achæmenes* did little worth remembring, seeing in the *Persian* Greatness, nothing was Published of their first Kings. *Xenophon* reports the Crown descended from Father to Son many Descents; and that *Cambyses* begot *Cyrus*; so that the Story of *Astyages's* giving *Mandane* his Daughter to a base Man, to disable her Issue, whose Greatness he feared, is improbable. Two Races sprung from *Achæmenes*; the First, according to *Reynoccus*, are *Darius*, *Cyrus* First, *Cambyses*, *Cyrus* the Great, *Cambyses*,

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byfes, &c. Of the Second Race came the Seven Princes who overthrew the *Magi*, and chose *Darius*, Son of *Hystaspes*, one of them for King.

Persia, first called *Elemais*, of a Son of *Shem*, &c. Their City called *Persopolis*, in the Second Book of *Maccabees*, is called *Elemais* in the First Book, and now *Cyrus*; but Built in another place; for that which *Alexander* destroyed at the request of the Harlot *Tbais*. The First Kingdom known of the Harlot *Tbais*. The First Kingdom known to us, according to the Interpreters of *Gen. 14.* was *Chedorlaomer*, with whom *Amraphel* or *Ninus* joined in the War against the *Arabians*.

C H A P. III.

Of Cyrus the First Persian Monarch.

S. 1. **C**YRUS, saith *Strabo*, was so called of the River which watereth *Persia*; *Herodotus* saith, it signifies a Father; *Plutarch* saith; the Son *Esai* named him almost Two Hundred years before. He Conquered *Lydia*, and took *Cræsus* before *Babylon*, which he won in the Fifty Fifth *Olympiad*, and in the Twenty Eighth *Olympiad*, upon a Rebellion, subdued it again.

S. 2. *Lydia* had *Lydus* the Son of *Atys*, her first King, which Family was extinguished; *Argon* descended from *Hercules*, was chose by the Oracle, and held Twenty two Generations, to *Candaules* the last: *Gyges* succeeded him in Bed and Kingdom, which he left to *Atys* Father of *Sandiattes*

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diattes, Father of *Halyattes*, who begat *Cræsus*: All their time was One Hundred Seventy years. *Cræsus* so enlarged his Dominion, that he was Inferiour to no King of that Age, commanding *Phrygia*, *Bythynia*, *Caria*, *Misia*, *Paphlagonia*, &c. He, in confidence of his good Success, envying *Cyrus's* Fame, and desirous to check his Prosperous Undertakings, asked Counsel of *Apollo*; Then *Darius*, who assured *Cræsus* passing *Halis's* River, shall dissolve a great Dominion. An Answer doubtful, because the Devil was Ignorant of the Event.

S. 3. *Cræsus* thus resolved, despised all *Sandiattes* his Confessor's Arguments to the contrary, as the Barrenness of the Enemies Country, their hard manner of Living, War-like, Indefatigable and Prosperous; by whose Fall he can gain only Fame, wherein he excelled; and if he were Beaten, his Loss could be hardly told, or soon conceived. *Cræsus* proceeds with a powerful Army, but is staid at *Pterium*, a strong City of *Capadocia*, which he sought to force, while *Cyrus* advanc'd; *Cratippus* answer'd *Pompey* well, That Kingdoms have their Increase and Periods from Divine Ordinance; and so was it with these two great Princes, whose Forces meeting, the *Persians* had somewhat the better, but Night parted them. *Cræsus*, doubtful of the next days Success, quit the Field to *Cyrus*, and with all haste, got into *Sardis*; and because of Winter, sent home his Forces, not doubting any pursuit.

Cyrus finding the *Lydians* gon, followed slowly after, to avoid discovering; and having good Intelligence of *Cræsus's* proceedings, delay'd till the Forces were dispos'd to their Winter Garrison; when unexpectedly he invested *Sardis*, and in fourteen

§. 8. *Mardonius* having undertaken to reduce *Greece*, removed to *Thessaly*, and from thence, sent *Alexander*, King of *Macedon*, with great Promises, to persuade the *Athenians* to come in, which the *Lacedemonians* understanding, sent likewise to persuade them to remain firm. The *Athenians* Answer *Alexander*, renouncing Amity with *Xerxes* as long as the Sun kept his Course; whereupon *Mardonius* hasted to *Athens*, which was again left to him void. From thence he solicited them with many fair promises in vain; yet the *Lacedemonians* grew cold in sending Aid, 'till the *Athenians* grew to threaten a Course which would little please them. A Counsellor of *Sparta* thereupon said, our Wall upon *Isthus* will little avail us, if *Athens* listen to *Mardonius*; with which Speech, the *Lacedemonians* bethought themselves and dispatched five thousand *Spartans*, and gave orders for five thousand more.

§. 9. *Mardonius's* Army of thirty thousand was increased to fifty thousand, with the *Macedonians*, *Thebans* and *Thessalians*, against which, the Forces of *Greece* were One hundred and ten Thousand, of which forty thousand were weightily Armed. All these confronted one another in a convenient place belonging to the *Plataeans*, who gave it to the *Athenians*, upon the Oracles promise of Victory, if the Battle were fought on *Athenian* ground. In the end the Armies encounter each other; *Mardonius* is slain, his Army destroyed, and *Artabazus*, with three thousand, flyeth to *Byzantium*, and so Shipped into *Asia*.

§. 10. *Xerxes* being at *Sardis*, committed Sixty thousand to *Tygranes* to keep *Ionia* and the Coast, where his two Admirals lay at *Mycale*, who perceiving the *Grecian* Fleet was coming, drew their Ships on ground, and fortified the places, and disarmed the *Samians* among them, and set the *Miletians* far off, to keep the Streights, doubting them. The
Greeks

Greeks resolutely torce them, and the *Samians* in the Fight, get what Weapons they can, and play the Devil against the *Persians*, whose Example the *Ionians* follow; so that the *Persians* are overthrown, and of those that fled, the *Miletians* had the slaughter; this was the Evening of that Day, the Battel was at *Plataea*, which was the last that was heard of this mighty Army levied against *Greece*.

§. 11. *Xerxes* not regarding these Losses, was engag'd in the love of his Brother's Wife, who rejected him; and after of her Daughter, Wife to his Son; whereof did follow the Salvage Cruelty of *Amestris* his Wife, on his Brother's Wife, and his Murder of his Brother *Masistes*, her Husband.

C H A P. VII.

The Greek Affairs, from the Persian Wars, to the Peloponnesian, of Twenty Seven Years.

§. 1. THE *Greeks* having utterly defeated that *Persian* Army of Seventeen Hundred Thousand, and left a few thousands of them, that the *Peloponnesians* sent home, leaving *Xantippus*, and his *Athenians*, assisted with the revolted *Ionians*, who took *Sestos* in the Streight of *Hellepont*, between which, and *Abidos*, *Xerxes's* Bridge had stood; and in the Spring return'd home, taking their Wives and Children with them, out of the Islands where they had left them. The *Athenians* neglecting their private interest, fell presently to fortifie their City, which the *Lacedemonians*, doubting the *Athenians* power at Sea, dissuaded; but in vain, being held in susperce with fair words, till the work was ended; and then were answer'd, That *Athens* knew what belonged to her safety, as they had shewed in the *Persian War*, without direction from others.

§. 2. The