

Prayer List



Of Our Number

- ♦ Janice Carnley—Shoal Creek
- ♦ Jennifer Derrick—vertigo
- ♦ Wilfred Derrick—health problems
- ♦ Jeff Mashburn—health problems
- ♦ Lisa Mashburn—Covid-19
- ♦ Taylor Mashburn—not well lately
- ♦ Donna Parish—sick lately
- ♦ Peggy Preece—health problems

Others in Need

- ♦ Rhonda Compton—surg. recovery
- ♦ Danny Davis—back pain
- ♦ Louise Douglas—health problems
- ♦ Elocio (Chuck Arnett's father-in-law)—health problems
- ♦ Joyce Faulk—health problems
- ♦ Dawn Holloway—Sacred Heart
- ♦ Dianne Johnson—rare cancer
- ♦ Tony Jones—Parkinson's
- ♦ Kyla, Denise Vincent's daughter—pregnancy complications
- ♦ Stacey McDonald—surgery recov.
- ♦ Mary Milsted—lung cancer

Continued in next column...

- ♦ Thomas Patterson—health issues
- ♦ Shane Price—cancer
- ♦ Larry Shappley—hospice care
- ♦ Melanie Skinner—cancer
- ♦ Sidney White—stroke recovery
- ♦ Pray for Christians overseas, such as those facing persecution in Pakistan and certain parts of India.
- ♦ Pray for peace, pray for the bereaved, the persecuted, sick/suffering, civil leaders, military, 1st responders, sound Bible schools, the lost, enemies.

Events

July 14
Monthly Men's Meeting

July 24
4th Wednesday Singing

Faithful Worship — **1) Praying** to God the Father in the name of Jesus Christ (Luke 11:1-2; John 16:23; Eph. 5:20; Phil. 4:6); **2) Singing** without mechanical instruments (Matt. 26:30; Eph. 5:19; Col. 3:16-17; Heb. 2:12); **3) Preaching** God's Word (Mark 16:15-16; Acts 2:42; 20:7); **4) Giving** weekly as prospered, cheerfully (1 Cor. 16:1-2; 2 Cor. 9:7); **5) The Lord's Supper** on the first day of every week (Matt. 26:26-28; Acts 20:7; 1 Cor. 11:20-34; 16:2; Heb. 10:23-31).

To Our Visitors

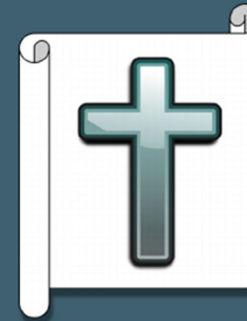


We are happy and honored that you are here! Please fill out a visitor's card and give us a chance to get to know you. If you have any questions about anything said or done in Bible class or worship, please ask. We seek to give a Bible answer for everything we do (Colossians 3:17; 1 Peter 3:15; 4:11).

Privileged to Serve



Announcements: Leo Derrick
Song Leading: Sunday—David Howze; Wednesday—Mark Howze
Serving the Lord's Supper
Head: Glenn Howze; Helpers: Ethan Howze, Ezra Howze, Mark Howze
Lord's Supper PM
Head: Leo Derrick
Helper: Caleb Howze
Bible Reading: Brett (AM), Caleb S. (PM)



THE BAKER BULLETIN

The weekly bulletin of

The church of Christ in Baker, FL

July 14, 2024

Meeting Times

Sundays:

10AM Bible Class
11AM Worship
6PM Worship

Wednesdays:

7PM Bible Class

Other Information

5761 Hwy. 4
P.O. Box 285
Baker, FL 32531 USA
850-669-9117

Website:

churchofChristatBaker.com

Radio Program:

104.7FM Sundays 8:30AM
WAAZ1047.com livestream

Jason Hilburn's Info:

850-826-8198
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TheBibleDomain.com
JasonsBibleBlog.com

A Few Words from Jason

We have more great news to share from India! About five years ago brother Vandan Kumar preached in a remote village, and a Pentecostal preacher and a few others were converted to the Lord's true church. Recently brother Kumar went back, and this time 35 people obeyed the Gospel! Some of them were Hindus and some were Pentecostals, but now the only church in that village is a church of Christ (Romans 16:16). We give thanks and glory to God for His powerful Gospel and the blood of Christ that washes away men's sins. Here in Baker a young man name Brian was baptized on July 6th! We rejoice with him and welcome him into the family here.

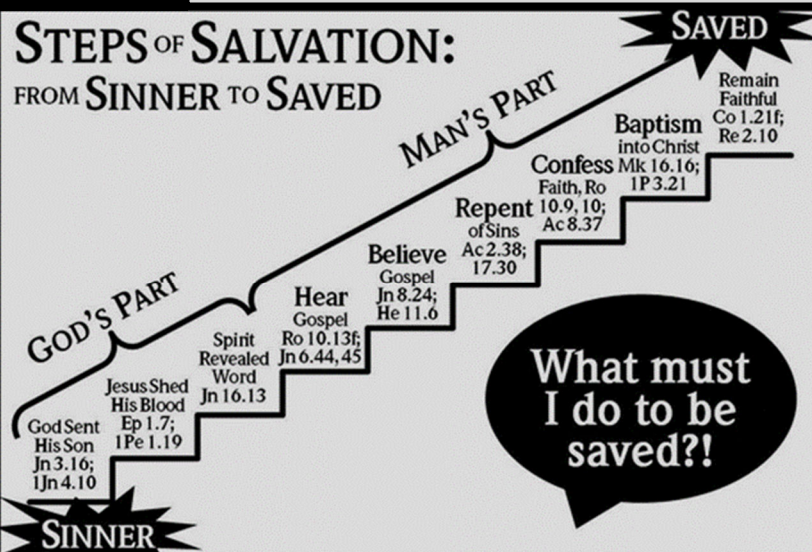
The Medo-Persian Kings Cyrus and Darius (Part 7)

Jason Patrick Hilburn

After the publication of the Nabonidus Chronicle in 1880, many able scholars sought to identify Darius the Mede with the "Gobryas" of that text and with the Gobryas of Xenophon and Herodotus...But the failure to see that the so-called "Gobryas" of the Nabonidus Chronicle was actually two different persons, Ugbaru and Gubaru, because of an inaccurate translation by Pinches, left certain points in confusion. It was not understood, until Sidney Smith's translation was published in 1924, that Ugbaru, the Governor of Gutium, died shortly after the Fall of Babylon. Thus, he

STEPS OF SALVATION: FROM SINNER TO SAVED

"...ye were the servants of sin..."
(Romans 6:17).



"...but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you. Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness" (Rom. 6:17b-18).

could not have been the same person as the Gubaru whose name appears in contract tablets for fourteen years after 539 B.C. Once the myth of the Nabonidus Chronicle "Gobryas" was dispelled, it became possible for the first time to postulate that Darius the Mede was Gubaru the Governor of Babylon rather than Ugbaru the Governor of Gutium (43-44).

One argument for Whitcomb's view is that Daniel 5:31 does not say exactly *when* Darius took the kingdom (or "received the kingdom," ASV). Could this be referring to Cyrus officially putting Gubaru over the kingdom of Babylon just seventeen days later? (Whitcomb, *Darius* 17, 23). If Xenophon's *Assyrian* "Gobryas" was an accurate description of Ugbaru, then Whitcomb maintains that Ugbaru cannot be the Darius the *Mede* of the Book of Daniel.

Xenophon (c. 434-355) spoke of a 'Gobryas' who was an Assyrian (i.e., Babylonian) prince that revolted to Cyrus with the district he governed (Cyropaedia, IV:6:1-2). Xenophon did not intend his *Cyropaedia* to be an accurate history of the career of Cyrus, but only an historical novel. Nevertheless, his 'Gobryas' must have been a reflection of some historical personage. Could it have been Darius the *Mede*? Hardly so, if Xenophon depicts his 'Gobryas' as an *Assyrian* prince who brought his province over to Cyrus. But it is possible that Xenophon was alluding to Ugbaru, the Governor of Gutium and conqueror of Babylon...

The great prominence given to Darius the Mede in the Book of Daniel is more readily explained if we assume his identification with a Gubaru whose reign extended not only over a period of three weeks, or even a year, but of *fourteen years*" (539-525 B.C.)...

...in the Nabonidus Chronicle we learn that...[Gubaru's] *name was a final warning to criminals*...It is highly significant that neither Cyrus nor Cambyses are mentioned in any cuneiform texts as being the final and supreme authorities in Babylonia against who crimes would be committed. Only Gubaru held such a preeminent legal position in the vast and populous areas of Babylonia, Syria, Phoenicia, and Palestine (Whitcomb, *Darius* 22-23; emphasis his).

Brother Rex Turner, Sr. maintained that the Darius of Daniel 5:31 was Ugbaru, who died shortly after receiving the kingdom from Cyrus, and that the Darius of Daniel 6:1 was Gubaru, both of whom served under Cyrus the Great. Regarding the Darius of Daniel 6:1, brother Turner wrote:

Now, who was this Darius? Was he the "Darius the Mede" of chapter 5:31? The answer is "No!"...Darius of 5:31 was Ugbaru, the governor of Gutium who, under Cyrus the Persian, entered Babylon on the 16th day of Tishri [October 12] 539 BC, and was slain in battle on the 11th of Arahshamnu [November 6] of the

same year, whereas the Darius of Daniel 6:1 was Gubaru. After the fall of Babylon under Ugbaru, the governor of Babylon, this Darius of Daniel 6:1 was installed as governor by the same conquering Cyrus. The year was *ca.* 538 BC (*Daniel* 195-196).

With Ugbaru named as the governor of Gutium, one wonders if Gutium could have been in the land of the Medes. If so, this would lend credence to brother Turner's position that Ugbaru was Darius the Mede of Daniel 5:31. Although there are disagreements about the location of Gutium, there is evidence to support the fact that Gutium was in the territory of the Medes.

The terms Gutium and Gutians continued to be used in texts from northern and southern Mesopotamia during the second and first millennia. Often they refer to a region or people from the Zagros mountains [where Anshan is; the area of Iran, JPH]...the term Gutian has no value as indication of a specific people and merely suggests uncivilized people from the Zagros. Any hostile group could be called Gutian. The Assyrian royal annals use the word Gutians when they refer to Iranian populations otherwise known as the Mannaeans or the Medes...In the fifteenth century the Babylonian king Agum-kakrime calls them "a barbarous people"...The seventh-century Assyrian king Assurbanipal accuses Gutians of assisting the rebellious Babylonians..., while the sixth century Babylonian king Nabonidus stated that they destroyed the temple at Sippar (Van De Mieroop).

"Under Assurnasirpal II and Shalmaneser III the Assyrian kings extended their rule into the Zagros. In the process they came into contact with small, ethnically diverse tribes, including the Medes" (Eerdmans 877). Based on this information, inhabitants of Gutium, although ruled by another nation such as Assyria or Babylon, could still consider themselves Medes. Therefore, Ugbaru, the governor of Gutium, even though Xenophon described him as an Assyrian, could perhaps have been called a Mede.

According to the Cylinder...Cyrus achieved his first victories, under the protection of Marduk, over "the country of Gutium and over all the troops of Manda [Medes]." This Ugbaru is probably the Gobryas who, according to Xenophon, left the Babylonian side and switched to Cyrus. He commanded a vast region (*Cyr.* IV.6.1-11) at whose frontiers the Neo-Babylonian territory began (V.3.1). It was from the territory of Gobryas that Cyrus launched the attack on Babylon (V.2.1-21); it was Gobryas who guided Cyrus's army (V.2.22); he also was the one who took Babylon (VII.5.26-30). As fictionalized as it is, Xenophon's tale seems nonetheless to be based on oral transmission of Ugbaru's story. Ugbaru must have been the Babylonian governor of a territory situated in the foothills of the Diyala that, some years before 540, had seceded and was taking orders from Cyrus (Briant 41-42).

To be continued next week, if the Lord wills...