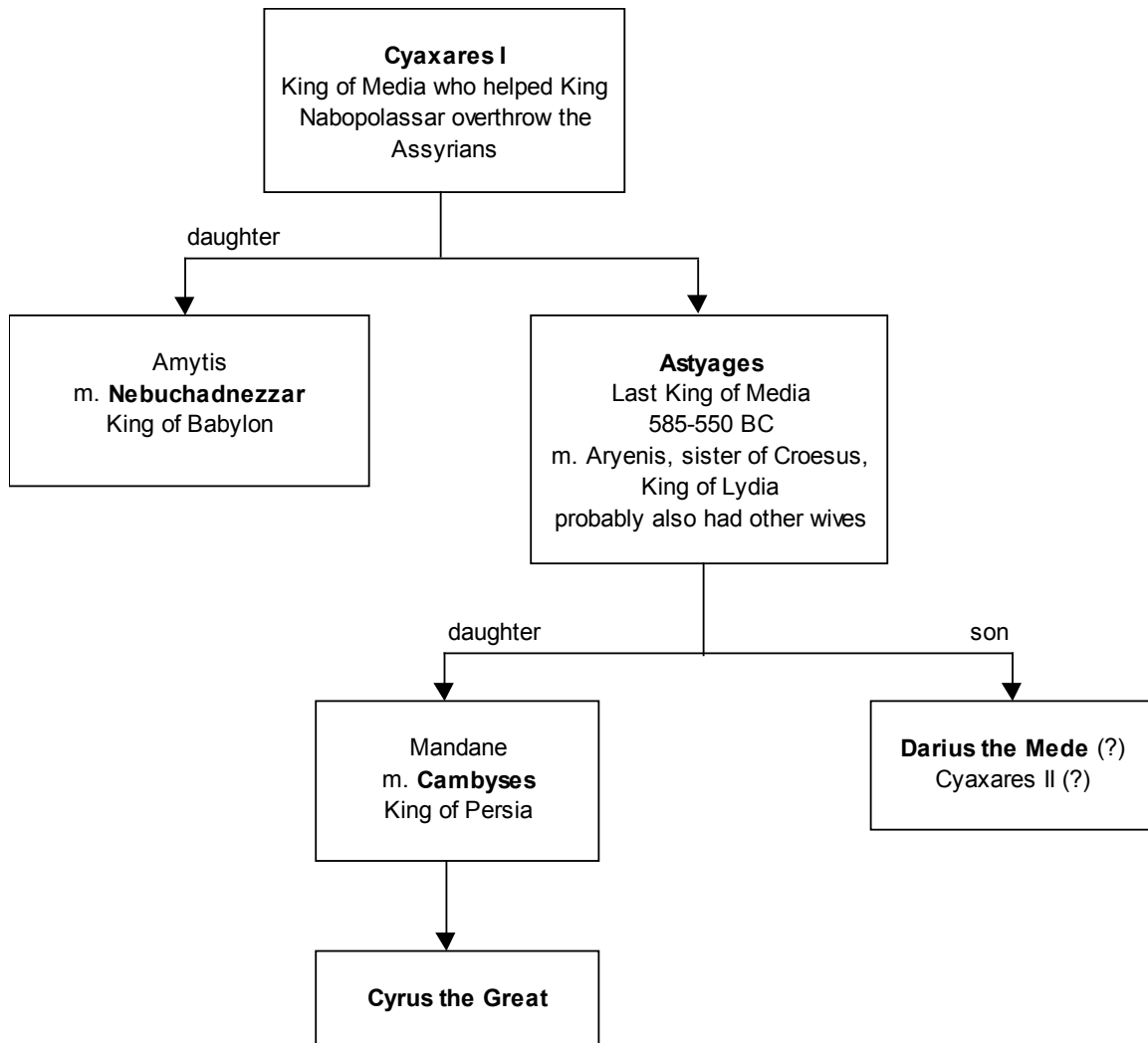


## HANDOUT – Darius the Mede



- Josephus names Astyages as father of Darius the Mede. This would make him Cyrus's uncle. Josephus does mention that Darius and Cyrus are relatives.
- The Bible names Ahaseurus as father of Darius the Mede. No Ahaseurus is known during this timeframe, though there is one much later, after Daniel's death.
- Another ancient historian, Xenophon, says Cyaxares II was Cyrus's uncle and father-in-law which implies Cyrus married his cousin.
- Mandane was apparently a daughter by an earlier marriage than the one that produced Darius. As a result, Darius and Cyrus would have been approximately the same age.
- Darius and Cyrus may be the same person. Darius may be a "throne name" for Cyrus. The age given in Daniel for Darius matches the age of Cyrus at that time.
- There was a governor installed by Cyrus during this time (Gobryas/Gubaru/Ugbaru) who may have been the person Darius.