

(Note the great number of references to Babylon in Jeremiah, as compared to the few in Isaiah).

aggressor nation. Babylon, which during the previous centuries had been of little political importance, succeeds to an empire as widespread and as powerful as that of Assyria had been before, ~~but this empire is short-lived.~~ Before it falls the kingdom of Judah. It in turn falls before the power of Persia, and it is the Persian empire which is prominent in the books of Ezra and Nehemiah. Thus the general historical framework of the Old Testament corresponds ^{with} ~~to~~ the general framework of history as shown from archaeology and provides strong general corroboration of the factual nature of the Old Testament. It is not a book of myths and legends, ~~but~~