

Ezra 6:2

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And there was found at Achmetha, in the palace that is in the province of the Medes, a roll, and therein was a record thus written:

Analysis

The decree's discovery 'at Achmetha, in the palace that is in the province of the Medes' specifies precise location. This geographical precision enhances historical credibility. The roll (scroll) containing Cyrus's decree provided documentary proof validating Jewish authorization. Ancient rulers' decrees had legal force—finding it meant Darius must honor his predecessor's commitment. God orchestrated history so that truth would be officially discovered and validated at the exact moment needed.

Historical Context

Achmetha (Ecbatana) served as Persian summer capital due to cooler mountain climate. The palace archives preserved important state documents. The decree's specific location there rather than in Babylon or Persepolis suggests it was filed when issued during Cyrus's early reign. Archaeological excavation of Ecbatana has been limited, but Persian palace remains confirm elaborate governmental complexes with administrative functions.

Related Passages

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Study Questions

1. What does the specific geographical detail teach about biblical text's historical reliability and concern for verifiable facts?
2. How does God's timing in revealing the decree precisely when needed demonstrate His sovereign control over historical processes?

Interlinear Text

וְהִשְׁתַּכַּח	בְּאַחְמֶתָא	בְּבִירַתָּא	דִּי	בְּמֶדִי		
And there was found	at Achmetha	in the palace	H1768	of the Medes		
H7912	H307	H1001		H4076		
מְדִינַתָּהּ	מְגִלָּה	חֵדָּה	וְכֵן	כֵּתִיב	בְּגִוָּהּ	דְּכְרוּנָהּ:
that is in the province	roll	a	thus	written	and therein	was a record
H4083	H4040	H2298	H3652	H3790	H1459	H1799

From KJV Study • kjevstudy.org