

Halys, and the country east of Media and Persia to the Indus, and in 525 B. C., under Cambyses, the son of Cyrus, subdued Syria, Phœnicia, and Egypt.

The Persian Empire was simply the reunited Assyrian Empire remodeled and enlarged. The character of the civilization was not revolutionized. The Persian mountaineers took the lead of Western Asia simply as governors and soldiers. Their empire lasted till 333 B. C. This date, already given for the Greek conquest of Egypt, may stand also as date for the Greek conquest of all other Persian provinces.

This last conquest effected a decided change of manners, customs and institutions in the Chaldeo-Assyrian countries, which will be noticed under Greek History. But the foregoing sketch makes apparent that, in the Tigris-Euphrates valley and dependent countries, from the dawn of history to the fall of the Persian Empire, we are dealing with the same civilization essentially. Thus we shall be able to describe it as a whole in the next section, not allowing the changes of dynasty to confuse us. The changes and gradual increase of area are important, however, and the distinctions between the empires and the provinces of the same name must be noted.

TABLE OF EXTENT OF AREAS.

Division of Assyrian States.	Chaldean Empire.—Tigris-Euphrates valley, and weak hold of Syria.
	Assyrian Empire.—Tigris-Euphrates valley, Syria, Asia Minor to the Halys, Media (the province), Persia (the province), with changing boundaries to the east of these two provinces. Asia Minor, beyond the Halys, was a vassal state (the Lydian Empire) till a century before the fall of Nineveh.
	Babylonian Empire.—Tigris-Euphrates valley and Syria.
	Median Empire.—Province of Persia, Province of Media, and Asia Minor to the Halys.
	Persian Empire.—Assyrian States reunited, with addition of the rest of Asia Minor (Lydian Empire), of Egypt, and of the country east of Media and Persia to the Indus.