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| 1. **Assyrian** Empire (700 – 612 BC)
 |
| * 1. Background
 |
| * + 1. Location:
 |
| * + 1. Downfall:
 |
| * 1. Administration
 |
| * + 1. Absolute monarchy:
 |
| * + 1. Communication:
 |
| * + 1. Library at Nineveh:
 |
| * 1. Military
 |
| * + 1. Structure:
 |
| * + 1. Technology:
 |
| * + 1. Tactics:
 |
| * + 1. Terror:
 |
| 1. **Persian Empire**
 |
| * 1. Rise of the Persian Empire
 |
| * + 1. **Nebuchadnezzar II**:
 |
| * + 1. Origins of the Persians:
 |
| * 1. Emperors (Achaemenid Dynasty)
 |
| * + 1. **Cyrus** the Great (r. 559 – 530 BC)
 |
| * + - 1. Conquest of Babylon:
 |
| * + - 1. Treatment of conquered peoples:
 |
| * + 1. Cambyses (r. 529 – 522 BC):
 |
| * + 1. **Darius** the Great (r. 521 – 486 BC)
 |
| * + - 1. Conquests:
 |
| * + - 1. Attempted invasion of Greece ends in defeat at Marathon (490 BC)
 |
| * 1. Administration under Darius
 |
| * + 1. **Satrapies**:
 |
| * + 1. **Royal Road:**
 |
| * + 1. Military:
 |
| * 1. Fall of the Persian Empire
 |
| * + 1. Weakening of the monarchy:
 |
| * + 1. Conquest of the Persian Empire (330 BC):
 |
| * 1. Religion
 |
| * + 1. **Zoroaster** (b. 660 BC):
 |
| * + 1. Monotheistic but dualistic (the supreme “god” is challenged by an evil spirit)
 |
| * + - 1. Ahuramazda –
 |
| * + - 1. Ahriman –
 |