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Roman Edessa offers a comprehensive and erudite analysis of the ancient city of Edessa (modern day Urfa, Turkey), which constituted a remarkable amalgam of the East and the West. Among the areas explored are:

- \* the cultural life and antecedents of Edessa
- \* Edessene religion
- \* the extent of the Hellenization at Edessa before the advent of Christianity
- \* the myth of an exchange of letters between a King Abgar and Jesus.