300 - Thermopylae and Rise of an Empire



0. 300 - Thermopylae and Rise of an Empire - Story Preface

- 1. REVENGING MARATHON
- 2. SPARTA
- 3. LIFE IN SPARTA
- 4. LEONIDAS
- 5. GORGO
- 6. XFRXFS and the IMMORTALS
- 7. THERMOPYLAE
- 8. BATTLE at the HOT GATES
- 9. EPHIALTES THE TRAITOR
- 10. THEMISTOCLES against XERXES
- 11. GREEKS DEFEAT the PERSIANS



This statue of Leonidas is located in the city of Sparta. Photo by Praxinoa, online courtesy Wikimedia Commons. License: CC BY-SA 3.0

[The Spartans]
are the equal of any men
when they fight as individuals;
fighting together
as a collective,
they surpass all other men.

Demaratus (former Spartan king) to Xerxes Reported by <u>Herodotus</u> in *Histories* 7.104

<u>Xerxes</u>, also called the Great King, was <u>on the move</u>. The Persian leader - who considered himself a god - had amassed a huge army. Herodotus says it numbered 1,700,000 men from forty subject countries. Their destination? Greece.

Inheriting a substantial <u>empire</u> from his father - <u>Darius I</u> - Xerxes already had nearly everything a king could want. The <u>ruins</u>, for example, of <u>his palace</u> at <u>Persepolis</u> - in <u>today's Iran</u> - are <u>magnificent</u>. But the battle, against Greece, would be personal.

This fight was about revenge.

Visual Vocabulary Builder for this Story

See Alignments to State and Common Core standards for this story online at:

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See Learning Tasks for this story online at:

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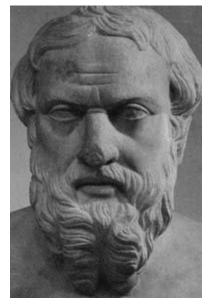
Questions 2 Ponder

Does Collaboration Lead to Better Results?

When Demaratus said that Spartan warriors, fighting together, surpassed "all other men," he was making a point about collaboration.

Do you think that collaborating with others, as a team, always leads to better results? Why, or why not?

Media Stream



Herodotus

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Xerxes I - King of the Persians

Image online, courtesy <u>Livius</u>.

Quoted passage, from *The Histories*, by Herodotus.

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Xerxes On the Move

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Darius I - King of the Persians

Image online, courtesy <u>Livius</u>.

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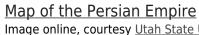


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Xerxes - Ruins of the Palace Entrance

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300 - Xerxes Leaves His Palace

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Palace of Xerxes - Magnificent Sphinx Stairs

Image online, courtesy <u>Livius</u>.

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