

in the narrow Peneios pass and flooded Thessaly, which is essentially a bowl surrounded by mountains with one river to drain it of water.

The list of all the Greek cities that gave earth and water to Xerxes:

- **Thessalians**
- **Dolopians**
- **Ainianes**
- **Perraibians**
- **Locrians**
- **Magnesians**
- **Malians**
- **Achaeans of Phthiotis**
- **Thebans**
- **Boeotians except the Thespians and Plataeans**

Xerxes did not bother sending requests for earth and water to Athens and Sparta, because the messengers sent by Darius to Athens and Sparta before Marathon were thrown in wells.

The Spartans send two Spartans to make up for the messengers they killed ten years previously but Xerxes said he:

“Would not act like the Lacedaemonians, who had violated laws observed by all humanity when they killed the heralds; no, he himself would not do the kind of thing for which he was reproaching them: he would not kill these two men to release the Lacedaemonians from their guilt.” The Spartans are sent home.

The Athenians went to Delphi where they got an oracle, but it was negative so they refused to leave until they got a better one. The second oracle said that safety lay behind ‘wooden walls’. Themistocles interpreted this as the navy, and persuaded the Athenians to expand the fleet to 200 triremes using the money gained from the discovery of a new spring at the mines of Laurium.

The Greeks opposing the Persians send spies to Asia and envoys to other Greeks to invite them to join the defence of Greece.

The spies are discovered at Sardis and Xerxes shows them the whole army then sends them home to tell the Greeks about the huge size of the army to try to intimidate them. Xerxes also permitted grain ships to sail through the Hellespont to his Greek enemies as he assumed they would just walk into Greece and would have lunch ready made.

Gelon the Sicily man decides to help the Greek effort against Persia even though they did not help him when he was at war with the Carthaginians. He helps them by giving them **200 triremes, 20,000 hoplites, 2000 cavalry, 2000 archers, 2000 slingers, and 2000 lightly armed troops** on ONE condition...

He wants to be the ‘commander and leader of the Hellenes against the barbarians’. Syagros the Spartan general refuses this, saying Sparta *must* lead the Greeks. Then Gelon says as a final decision that he could command the fleet OR the army; the Athenians say no to this idea.

The Persians who were not killed at battle were killed by the storm.

Herodotus says: "all this was the god's doing". Is he supporting religion here?

53 ships from Attica arrive to help the cause.

The next day, the Greeks set out and destroy the Cilician ships.



After three days, the Persians attack, coincidentally at the same time as Thermopylae. However, although Xerxes' forces should have won, they "failed on reason of their own size and numbers; their ships **chaotically (CLEFTED)** crashed into one another and were wrecked".

At Artemision, the Euboeans fought best out of the Persians and the Athenians fought best out of the Greeks.

Half of the Athenian fleet was destroyed at Artemision.

Around 100 Greek ships were destroyed whereas around 200 Persian ships were destroyed.

The Greeks retreat to the waters of mainland Greece.

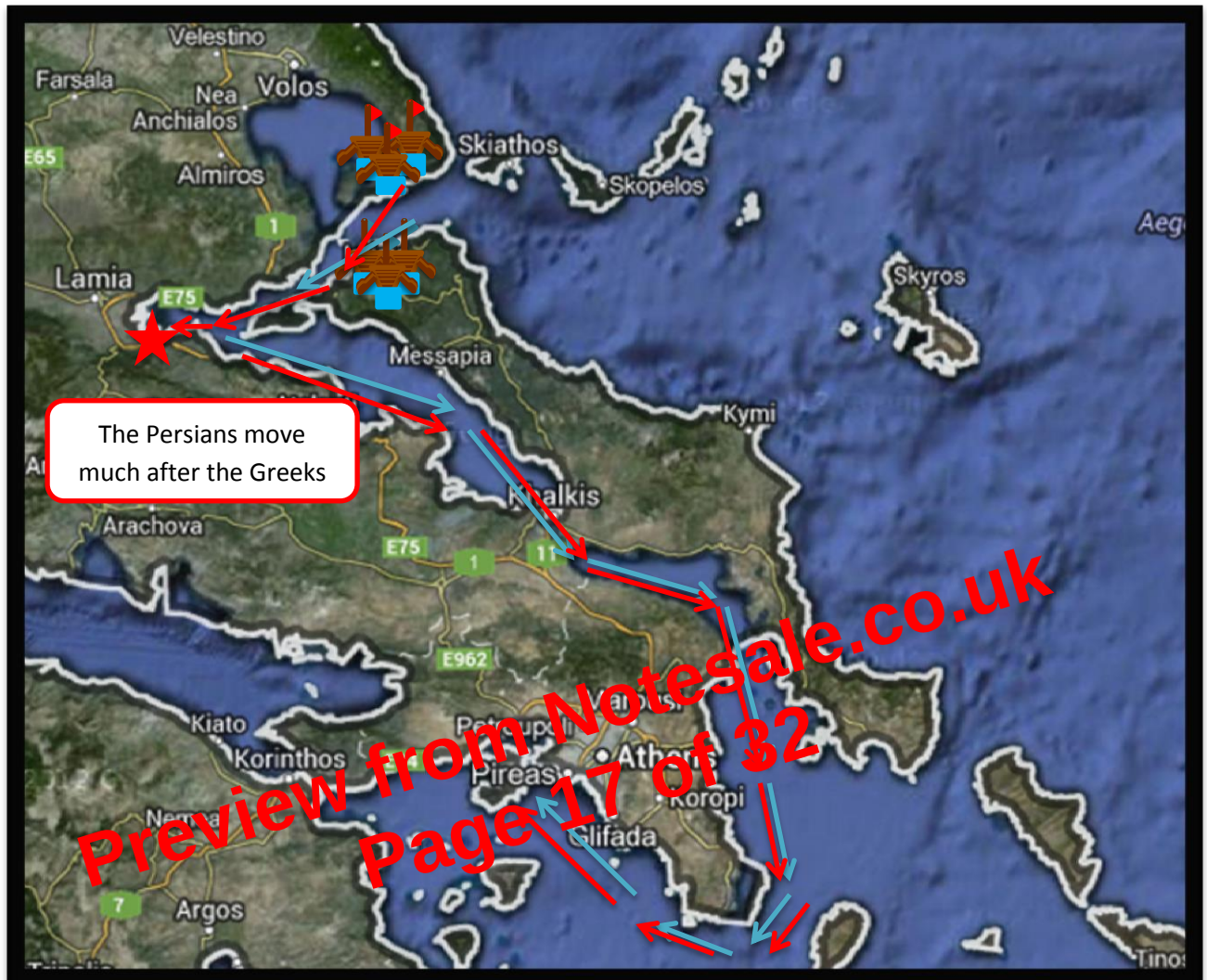
Themistocles perceived that if the Ionians and the Carians could be detached from the barbarian forces, the Greeks might win.

He orders his men to slaughter what they can of the Euboean flocks (so the Persians do not get them) and light fires to hide the departure of the Euboeans. However, because the Euboeans ignored an oracle, they will suffer.

Themistocles left a message on the rocks for the Euboeans, Ionians and Carians, telling them to desert or at least to hang back.

Learning of the Greek withdrawal, the Persians advance to Histiaia and overrun its coastal territory.

The Persians then went to Thermopylae. Xerxes had previously had 21,000 of the 22,000 dead Persians hidden in a burial trench, only displaying 1000 of the corpses, to make the victory look more solidly Persian against the 4000 dead Spartans and other Greeks.



Greeks who took part at Thermopylae:

Spartan helots	300
Mantineans	500
Tegeans	500
Arcadian Orchomenos	120
Other Arcadians	1000
Corinthians	400
Philians	200
Myceneans	80
Thespians	700
Thebans	400
Phocians	1000
Total	5200

The Athenians are attacked by the enemy Greeks who medised and cannot help the Spartans.

The Tegans prayed and the Lacedaemonians made sacrifices, which finally yielded favourable omens. They charged on the Persians and the lack of armour and skill in close-quarters fighting meant they lost after Mardonios fell as most of the Persians then ran away in panic without a leader. This is linkable to the Queen in 'Persians' who asks "but how do they fight without one leader?"

Artabazos stalks off as he had been ignored by Mardonios, and had disagreed with the King's decision of putting him in charge and leaves with "up to 40,000 men".

The Athenians, Spartans, and Tegans charge on the walled Persian camp and the Athenians get in and slaughter the Persians, leaving only about 3000 Persians from the previous 300,000. Only 91 Spartans, 16 Tegans, and 52 Athenians died in this rampage.

Kallikrates was killed by an arrow before he could even strike a bow for Hellas, this is very sad to the Greeks. To add insult to injury, he was the most handsome of the Greeks there!

A woman of Cos deserts the Persians and goes to Pausanias as a refugee, he knows her dad and promises to treat her well, sending her to Aegina as she wanted.

The Mantineians and Eleians arrive after the battle is over; they are so upset to have missed it that they banish their leaders.

Lampon of Aegina advises Pausanias to take revenge for the Persians' ill-treatment of Leonidas' body by impaling the corpse of Mardonios.

Pausanias says the advice is unworthy of a Greek and a Spartan and is a "deed more appropriate to barbarians than Hellenes". Leonidas and the other Greeks who died at Thermopylae had received their vengeance by the huge number of Persians killed at Plataea.

At Pausanias' orders, the helots gather the spoils to one place so that some will be dedicated to the gods and the rest should be distributed to the soldiers with ten of each category set apart for Pausanias. The categories are:

- Gold
- Silver
- Women
- Horses
- Camels
- Other goods

Pausanias does the picnic thing! He compares a Spartan lunch to a Persian lunch and wonders why the Persians would want to deprive the Greeks of their poverty.

The corpse of Mardonios had disappeared by the day after the battle, and many people took credit for the burial of it when Artonos, Mardonios' son, asked, so many people received the same reward.

The Spartans buried their men in three chambers according to class:

1. Priests

The Greeks decide to go and land on Mycale too. Leotychidas calls out to the Ionian Hellenes to remember their freedom, hoping to win them over or at least excite Persian distrust of the allies- because the Persians will not have a clue what he is saying!

The Persians disarm the Samians and send the Milesians out of the area to protect themselves from potential traitors. The rumour of victory at Plataea encourages the Greeks at Mycale; Herodotus puts the speediness of the rumour passing down to divine intervention.

The Milesians turn on the Persians who are fleeing to Sardis and attack them. Meanwhile, the Athenians decide to just get the Ionian Islanders accepted as allies of the Hellenes rather than just moving the Ionians (because then someone else would have to move to accommodate them, and they really could not be bothered putting the time towards such a logistical feat).

At Sardis, Xerxes courts Masistes' wife without success (Masistes is his *brother*). He arranges a marriage between his son and Masistes' daughter, but then, at Susa, forgets the mother and woos and wins the daughter. The daughter, who happens to be his niece.

One day his wife Amastris made him a beautiful robe, and he was wearing it when he went to see Artaynte. He says he will give her anything she wants in return for her services, and she wants the robe. He HAS to give it to her, as she will not change her mind.

Amastris believes Masistes' wife, the girl's mother, is responsible for the affair and plots to kill the mother and she cruelly mutilates her when Xerxes is asking Masistes to back down and marry one of Xerxes' daughters instead, he refuses and Xerxes simply forces divorce upon them.

Masistes flees with his sons to raise a revolt in Ionia but Xerxes sends an army to kill him on his way there.

"Soft lands breed soft men" -Cyrus. Very relevant to everything.

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