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### **Would the world be great without “the Great”?**

Alexander III of Macedon, commonly known as Alexander the Great, was born in July 356 BC in Pella, the ancient capital of Macedonia. He was the son of King Philip II of Macedon and his wife Queen Olympia, daughter of King Neoptolemus. Alexander became the king of Macedonia at the age of 20, following his father's assassination. He went on to conquer much of the known world of his time, including the Persian Empire, Egypt, and parts of India.

Alexander's military campaigns were characterized by his tactical brilliance and his ability to inspire his troops. He never lost a battle, and his empire extended from Greece to Egypt and across the Persian Empire to India. In addition to his military conquests, Alexander is also known for his cultural achievements. He founded numerous cities, many of which were named after him, and encouraged the spread of Greek culture throughout his empire. He was also a patron of the arts and sciences, and his court was a center of learning and culture.

Alexander died in Babylon in 323 BC at the age of 32. The cause of his death is not known for certain, but it is believed that he died of a fever or was poisoned. Despite his short reign, Alexander left a lasting legacy, and his story has been told and retold for centuries.

Overall, Alexander the Great was a legendary figure in history, known for his military conquests and cultural achievements.

If Alexander the Great had died in his first battle and never conquered Persia, the world would have looked very different. The absence of his leadership and military prowess would have had a major impact on the course of history. One possible outcome is that the Greek city-states would have remained independent and would not have been united under a single empire. This would have limited the spread of Greek culture and ideas, and the Hellenistic era may never have taken place. The Persian Empire would likely have remained intact, and its power and influence would have continued to grow. The Persians may have gone on to conquer other territories and expand their empire even further.

Without Alexander's influence, the spread of Greek culture would have been limited, and the blending of Greek, Persian, and other cultures that characterized the Hellenistic world may never have taken place. It is also possible that another leader would have emerged to fill the vacuum left by Alexander's absence, and that person may have conquered Persia and established a different type of empire.

In any case, the death of Alexander the Great in his first battle would have had far-reaching consequences for the ancient world and beyond. It is impossible to know exactly how events would have played out, but it is clear that the world would have been vastly different without his contributions.

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