

Jonas Max Trofort

World Civilization I

Professor Lyndell O'Hara

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Watching the film, "Alexander the Great" was very insightful and had a great breakdown of the overall successes and failures of Alexander the Great or his enemies, "Alexander the Accursed". It was fascinating to learn that Alexander assumed power due to his father, King Phillip II, being assassinated by his bodyguard. At the young age of 20 years old, Alexander being, "brilliant, restless, an experienced military commander and tutored by the Great Aristotle" was in the perfect position to assume his father's plan and execute his large vision of invading and conquering Persia which was a superpower at the time. To secure his position as king, Alexander strategically executed all potential rivals, crushed all rising rebellions in Illyria, Thessaly, and Central Greece, and finally, performed a special execution of Thebes by destroying the city and selling everyone into slavery.

Amongst all the different battles that Alexander fought, there were a few battles that were key to his conquering of the Persian Empire. There was a Battle at the River of Granicus, that served as an open door to the rest of the Persian Empire. It was the first major battle on Persian land and the first of many battles where Alexander was able to showcase to the Persian Empire his greatness. The second influential battle was the Battle of Issus, a massacre where the Persian King attempted to corner Alexander's army and instead failed and ended up fleeing. After excellent battle strategies that produced a string of victories, King Darius III offered Alexander a peace agreement where he would give half of the empire, gold, and his daughter's hand in marriage. Alexander refused because he believed that his vision would come to life.

Some value that I gained from watching this video was the importance of a compelling vision. Alexander's vision directed and motivated all of these decisions. He was able to stay true

to his vision and was able to communicate that vision to his team. Alexander was amazing at leading by example; during the breakdowns of all the battles, Alexander was always leading the charge. There was a moment when Alexander's soldiers were exhausted and discouraged from fighting for 8 years Alexander was able to encourage them once again for battles and was able to extract excellence from them. This film was very educational and interesting to see the development, rise, and fall of Alexander's achievements.