

**ANCIENT GREEK for EVERYONE**  
**Unit 13**  
**CLASSICAL READING**

In 404 BCE, democratic Athens surrendered to Sparta after decades of conflict (known as the Peloponnesian War). A group known as the Thirty Tyrants then took control of Athens but democracy was restored the next year. Among the Thirty was a man named Eratosthenes, who allegedly murdered the brother of the famous orator and legal expert Lysias. Lysias published a speech prosecuting Eratosthenes. Here Lysias explains that sometimes defendants point to their good, patriotic deeds as counterbalancing any crimes they committed, but that is impossible for Eratosthenes:

ἐπεὶ κελεύετε αὐτὸν ἀποδειῖξαι  
ὅπου τοσοῦτους τῶν πολεμίων ἀπέκτειναν ὅσους τῶν πολιτῶν,  
ἢ ναῦς ὅπου τοσαύτας ἔλαβον ὅσας αὐτοὶ παρέδωσαν,  
ἢ πόλιν ἦντινα τοιαύτην προσεκτήσαντο  
οἷαν τὴν ὑμετέραν κατεδουλώσαντο.  
ἀλλὰ γὰρ ὅπλα τῶν πολεμίων ἐσκύλευσαν τοσαῦτα  
ὅσα περὶ ὑμῶν ἀφείλοντο,  
ἀλλὰ τείχη τοιαῦτα εἶλον  
οἷα τῆς ἑαυτῶν πατρίδος κατέσκαψαν.  
οἵτινες καὶ τὰ περὶ τὴν Ἀττικὴν φρούρια καθεῖλον,  
καὶ ὑμῖν ἐδήλωσαν  
ὅτι οὐδὲ τὸν Πειραιᾶ Λακεδαιμονίων προστατόντων περιεῖλον,  
ἀλλ' ὅτι ἑαυτοῖς τὴν ἀρχὴν οὕτω βεβαιότεραν ἐνόμιζον εἶναι.  
πολλάκις οὖν ἐθαύμασα τῆς τόλμης τῶν λεγόντων ὑπὲρ αὐτοῦ,  
πλὴν ὅταν ἐνθυμηθῶ  
ὅτι τῶν αὐτῶν ἐστὶν αὐτοῦς τε πάντα τὰ κακὰ ἐργάζεσθαι  
καὶ τοὺς τοιούτους ἐπαινεῖν.  
οὐ γὰρ νῦν πρῶτον τῷ ὑμετέρῳ πλήθει τὰ ἐναντία ἔπραξεν,  
ἀλλὰ καὶ ἐπὶ τῶν Τετρακοσίων ἐν τῷ στρατοπέδῳ ὀλιγαρχίαν καθιστὰς  
ἔφευγεν ἐξ Ἑλλησπόντου τριήραρχος καταλιπὼν τὴν ναῦν,  
μετὰ Ἰατροκλέους καὶ ἑτέρων, ὧν τὰ ὀνόματα οὐδὲν δέομαι λέγειν.  
ἀφικόμενος δὲ δεῦρο τὰναντία τοῖς βουλομένοις δημοκρατίαν εἶναι  
ἔπραττε. καὶ τούτων μάρτυρας ὑμῖν παρέξομαι.

(Lysias 12.39-42)

## VOCABULARY

ἀποδείκνυμι show, display

Ἀττική -ῆς ἡ Attica

(the region around the city of Athens)

ἀφείλοντο (3<sup>rd</sup> pl aorist) take from

ἀφικόμενος -η -ον having returned

βεβαιοτερος -α -ον more secure

βουλόμενος -η -ον wanting, planning

δέομαι need

δεῦρο here

δημοκρατία -ας ἡ

Ἑλλησποντος -ου ὁ Hellespont

(modern Dardanelles, the link between  
the Aegean and Black Seas)

ἐνθυμηθέομαι understand deep inside

ἐπαινέω praise

ἐπεὶ next, then

Ἰατροκλῆς -έους ὁ Iatrocles

(nothing is known about Iatrocles)

καθεῖλον < κατα + αἰρέω take down, destroy

καθιστάς -άσα -άν having established

καταλιπών -οῦσα -όν having abandoned

κατεδουλώσαντο (3<sup>rd</sup> pl aorist) enslave

κατασκάπτω dig up, destroy

Λακεδαιμόνιοι -ίων οἱ Spartan

λέγων -όντος ὁ speaker, orator

νῦν now

οἶος -α -ον (of the same kind) as

ὀλιγαρχία -ας ἡ oligarchy

ὅπου where

ὅσος -α -ον (as many) as

ὅταν = ὅτε

οὕτω this way

Πειραιεύς -εως ὁ Peiraeus

(the port of Athens)

περ marker of emphasis

περιεῖλον < περι + αἰρέω take away

πλήν

πολίτης -ου ὁ citizen

πολλάκις often

προσεκτήσαντο (3<sup>rd</sup> pl aorist) acquire

προστάτων -ουσα -ον giving instructions

σκυλεύω strip from

στρατόπεδον -ου τό military camp

τάναντία = τὰ ἐναντία

Τετρακόσιοι -ων The Four Hundred

(a brief oligarchy eight years earlier, in  
411 BCE)

τοιοῦτος -αύτη -οὔτο of the same kind (as)

τόλμη -ης ἡ boldness, daring

τοσοῦτος -αύτη -οὔτο as many (as)

τριήραρχος -ου ὁ trierarch

(commander of a trireme warship)

φρούριον -ου τό fort, garrison