

Chapter 2
Lesson 3
Notes

Lesson 3 – Alexander the Great

I. The Value of Observation

A. King Philip II of Macedonia

1. Offered to buy horse named **Bucephalus** (easily frightened)
2. Son – Alexander
 - a. Taught by Aristotle

1) Aristotle taught the importance of **observation**.

B. Greece controlled by a Macedonian King

1. Philip took advantage of the quarrels among the Greek city-states
 - a. formed a well-trained & powerful army
 - b. 338 B.C. King controlled all of Greece
 - c. 336 B.C. Philip died

2. **Alexander** becomes **king** at 20 years old

- a. Greeks thought they could throw off Macedonian rule.
- b. Proved them wrong by capturing the city of **Thebes** & destroyed everything except poet **Pindar's house**.

C. Alexander's Conquests

1. Building an Empire

- a. **Conquered the largest empire** the world had ever seen at the time
- b. **Conquered:**

- 1) Greece
- 2) Persian Empire
- 3) Land East of the Indus River

c. Planted Greek colonies in Egypt and Middle East

- 1) Took form of Greek cities, many named Alexandria
- 2) Most famous Alexandria was in Egypt (still bears its founders name)

2. Bucephalus Captured

- 1) Captured by thieves (returned unharmed)
- 2) Named one of the colonial cities Bucephala in honor of his horse.

3. Alexander never returned to Greece

- a. planned to rule from Ancient Babylon in Mesopotamia
- b. Alexander died in Babylon in 323 B.C. at the age of 32

D. Greek Culture

1. Spreading Culture

a. After death, several generals carved out of his empire kingdoms for themselves.

b. Ptolemy became king

- 1) family ruled Egypt for 300 yrs
- 2) **Cleopatra** was the last member to rule

c. **Alexander planted colonies to:**

- 1) control empire
- 2) spread Greek culture

2. Gymnasiums

a. Activities that took place here were:

- 1) athletic training
- 2) reading
- 3) discussions

b. Place to exercise the mind as well as the body

3. The Museum

a. Buildings were made in Greek style

b. Ptolemy established a center for Greek culture (museum)

c. Museum means “place of the **muses**”

1) Greek goddesses of art and learning

- a. Calliope – muse of poetry
- b. Terpsichore – dance
- c. Clio - history

d. People studied these and other subjects. Great library- largest in the Ancient world