



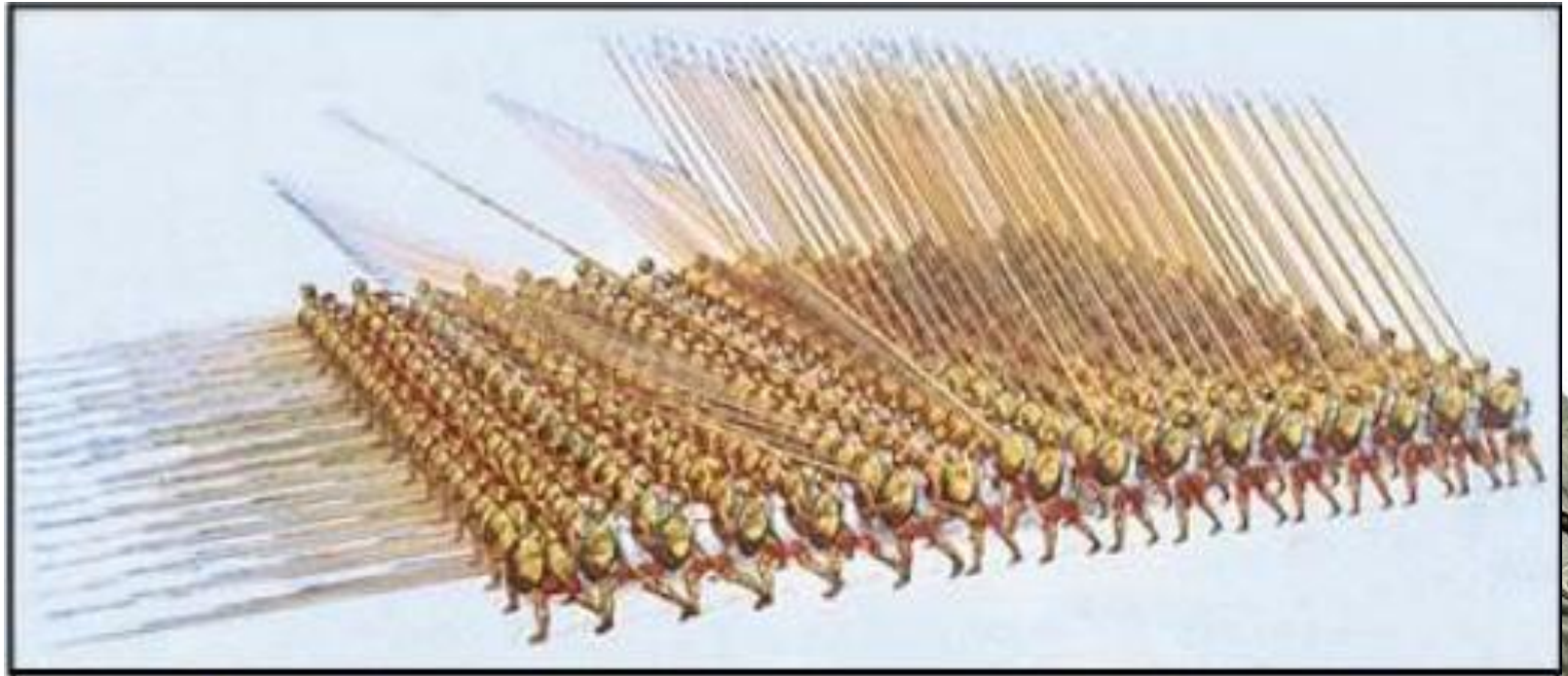
Conflict in the Greek World

490 – 404 B.C.E.



Greek Battle Formation

- Phalanx – Soldiers are packed together, heavily armored with interlocking shields, and long spears



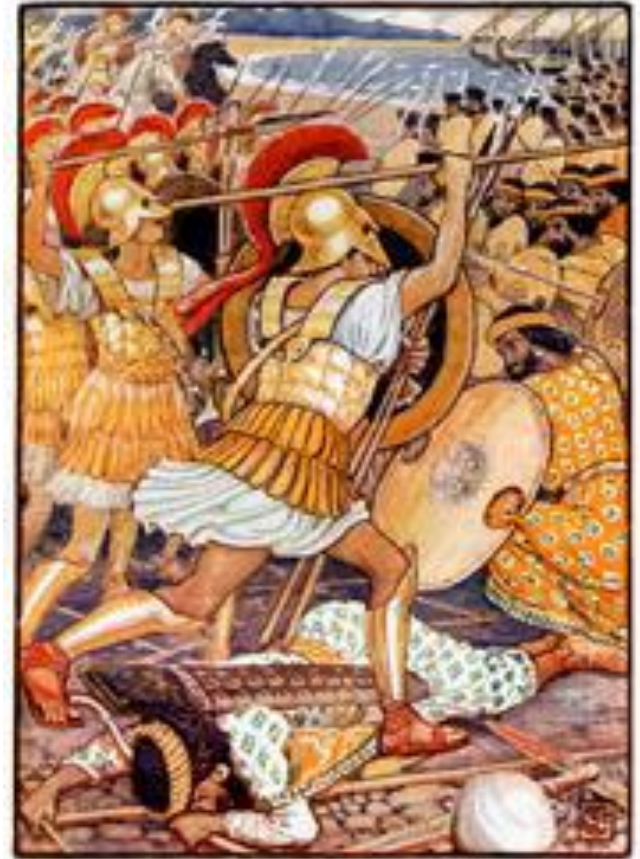
The First Persian War (490 B.C.E.)

- Persians angry at Athens for supporting Ionians in uprising
- Persian King Darius I sends large invasion fleet to burn down Athens



Famous For....

- Battle of Marathon
 - Greeks, heavily outnumbered by Persian forces, rush at Persian lines (10,000 Greeks Vs 100,000 Persians)
 - Take the Persians by surprise and force Persians to retreat to their boats
 - About 193 dead Athenians, about 6400 dead Persians



Also Famous For...

- Namesake of the famous 26 mile race
- Two possible stories of origins
 - Greek runner Pheidippides runs 26 miles from Marathon to Athens to announce Greek victory (Plutarch)
 - Greek army has to run 26 miles back to Athens at end of battle to prevent Persian naval attack (Herodotus)



Outcome

- Persians retreat back to Persia
- Darius I dies before he can raise another army to attack
- Greeks united
 - Themistocles knew Persians would come back
 - Built large navy to protect Athens



Second Persian War (480 B.C.E.)

- Darius I's son Xerxes returns with another army
- Meets small Greek army at Thermopylae



Famous For....

- Battle of Thermopylae
 - Spartan King Leonidas and his 300 “Bodyguards”
 - Max – 8,000 Soldiers
 - Min (Day 3) – Spartans, 700 Thespians ,and 400 Thebans
 - Persian army numbers about 1,000,000 – 5,000,000
 - 3 day battle but Persians win



Outcome

- Persians burn empty Athens to the ground
- Move on to Sparta
 - Athenian navy ambushed Persians and destroy Persian navy
 - Persian army defeated one year later



Golden Age of Ancient Greece

- Greeks assured of dominance
 - Believe reason they won is because of their gods
- Era of cultural and economic prosperity in Athens
 - Led by Pericles
- Create Delian League
 - An alliance against future attacks
 - Turns into Athenian led empire



The Peloponnesian War (431–404 B.C.E.)

- Sparta jealous of power of Athens
- Spartan backed Peloponnesian League vs Delian League
- Sparta marches army north and forces Athens to hide inside city
 - Crowded conditions = Plague
- Sparta allies with Persians and eventually captures city



Outcome

- Left Greece weakened
- Recovered economically, but spirit and unity was dead

