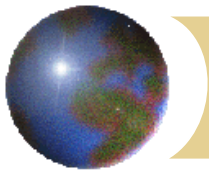


# *Alexander the Great*



*Ruler of the World*

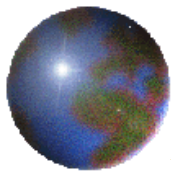


# *Why “the Great”?*

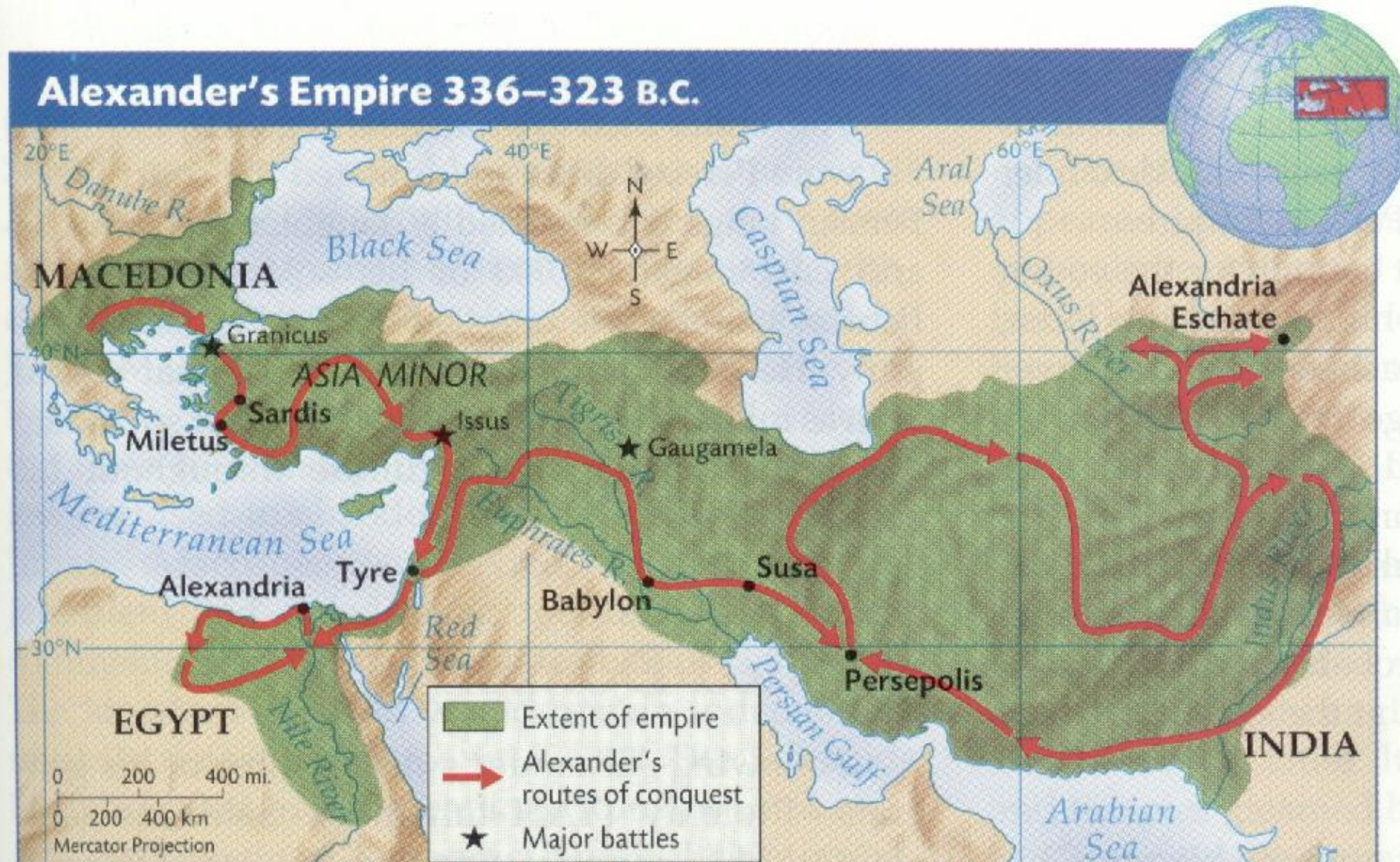
- ✚ In ten years, Alexander of Macedonia created the largest empire in the world up to that time
- ✚ Alexander spread Greek culture, ensuring cultural diffusion and the survival of the qualities of classical Greece

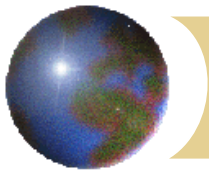






# *Alexander's Empire*

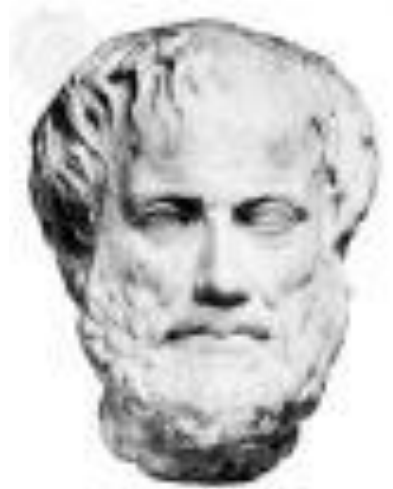




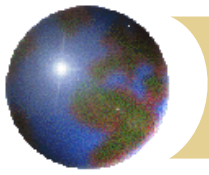
## *Alexander's origins*

- ✚ Born in Pella, Macedonia

- ✚ **Taught by the Greek philosopher, Aristotle**



- ✚ **His father, King Philip II, was king of Macedonia, and had conquered the Greek city states during his 27 year reign**



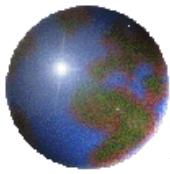
## *Alexander's Origins*

- ✚ **Alexander was military trained**

- ✚ Philip was murdered in 336 B.C.

- ✚ So Alexander was only **20**  
**when he became king of**  
**Macedonia**



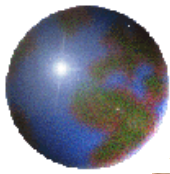


**Olympia**  
**Alexander's mother**

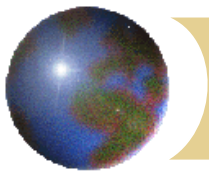


**Philip**  
**Alexander's father**





*From Pompeii mosaic*

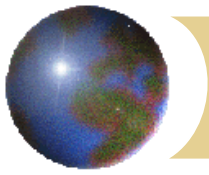


# *Expanding the Empire*

☼ 334-332 BC Alexander & his army defeat the Persians







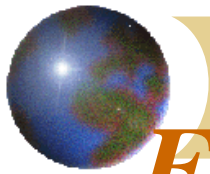
✚ Major cities in Asia Minor and along the Phoenician coast surrendered to Alexander

Between **332-331 BC**

Alexander proceeded to **Egypt, & established the city of Alexandria**

\*He was made pharaoh






# *Expanding the Empire*

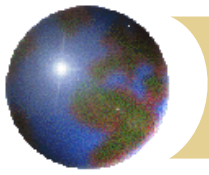
## ✚ Middle East

✚ From 330-327 BC

✚ Alexander conquered regions of the Middle East to Afghanistan



 The Empire of Alexander the Great. Alexander's conquests united Eurasia from Greece to India into a cultural and, briefly, a political unity.



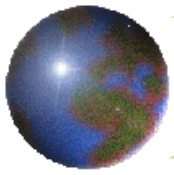
# *Expanding the Empire*

## ✚ Alexander in India

- ✚ Alexander fights his way across the deserts of Central Asia to India
- ✚ Alexander conquers Indus Valley area in 326 B.C.



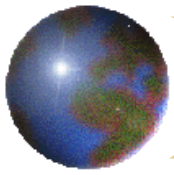




# *Legacy*

- ✚ Alexander blended Greek and Persian cultures.
- ✚ He spread Greek influence throughout all the conquered lands.

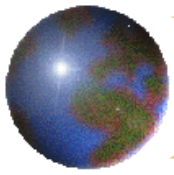




# *Legacy*

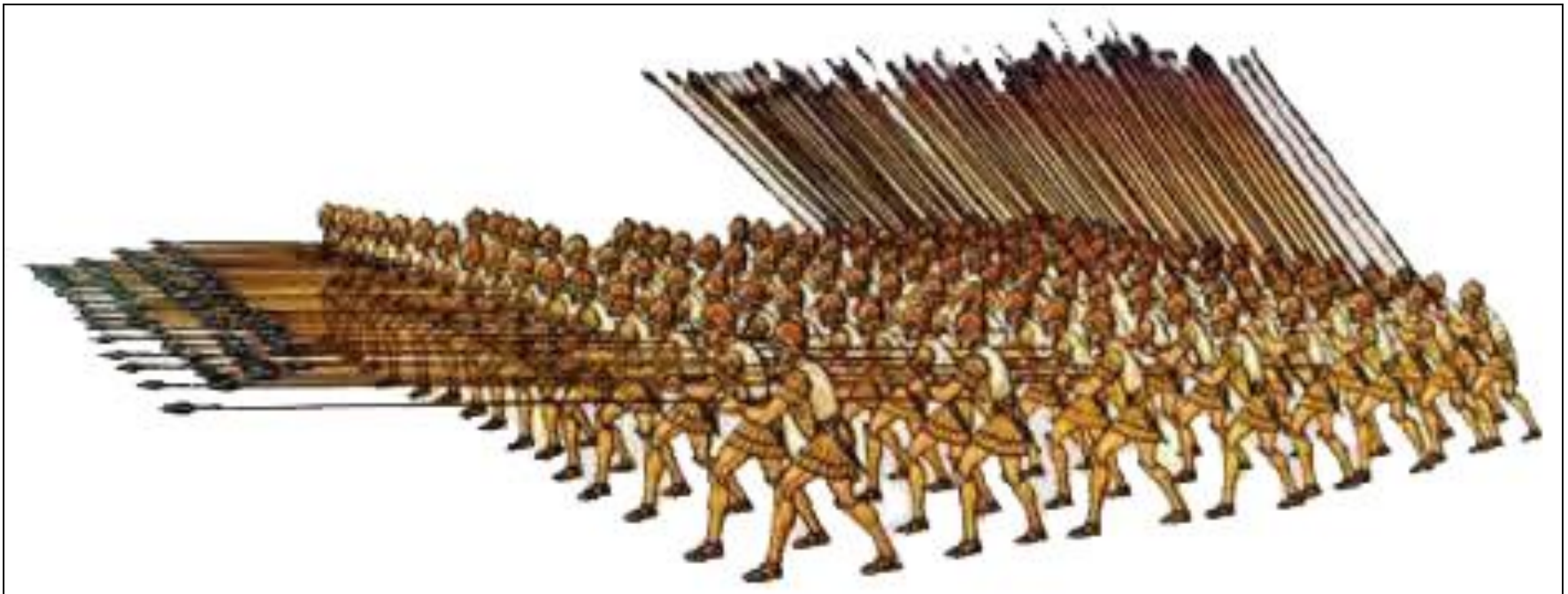
✚ His Empire becomes 3 Kingdoms-  
Macedonia, Egypt, Persia



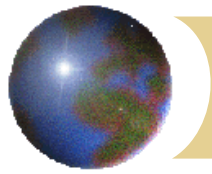


# *Legacy*

- ❖ **Phalanx:** A formation of infantry carrying overlapping shields and long spears, developed by Philip II and **perfected by Alexander the Great**





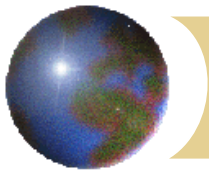


# The Gordian Knot

- ✚ The Gordian Knot: the legend behind the ancient knot was that the man who could untie it was destined to rule the entire world.

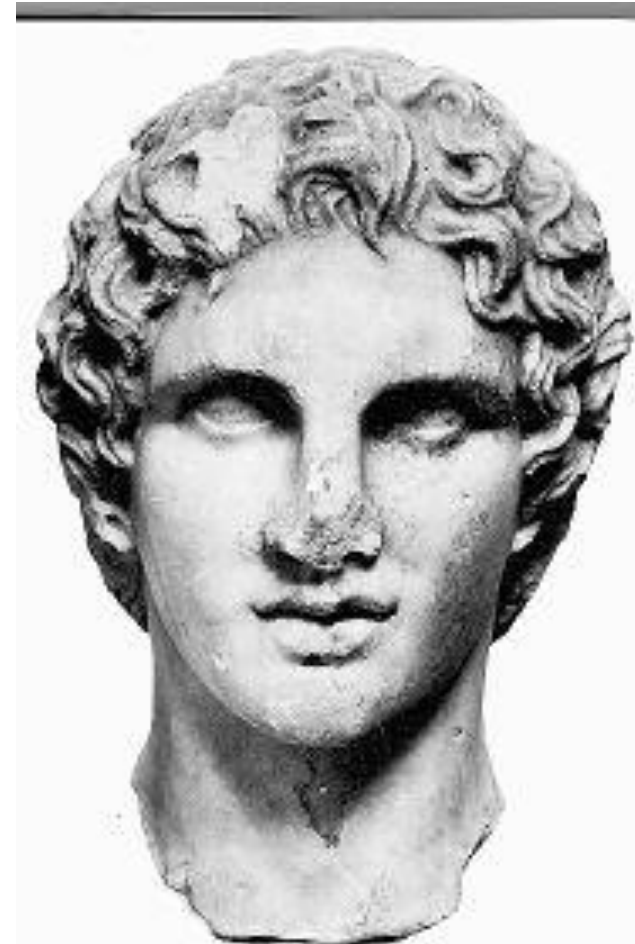


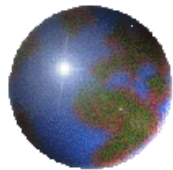
- ✚ Alexander simply slashed the knot with his sword and unraveled it.



# *The mystery of Alexander's death*

- ✚ Alexander died of a fever at 33... but why?
- ✚ Plutarch reports that he was had been plagued by several bad "omens"
- ✚ Some others from the time claimed Alexander was poisoned



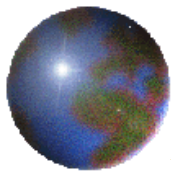


# So what's important to understand?

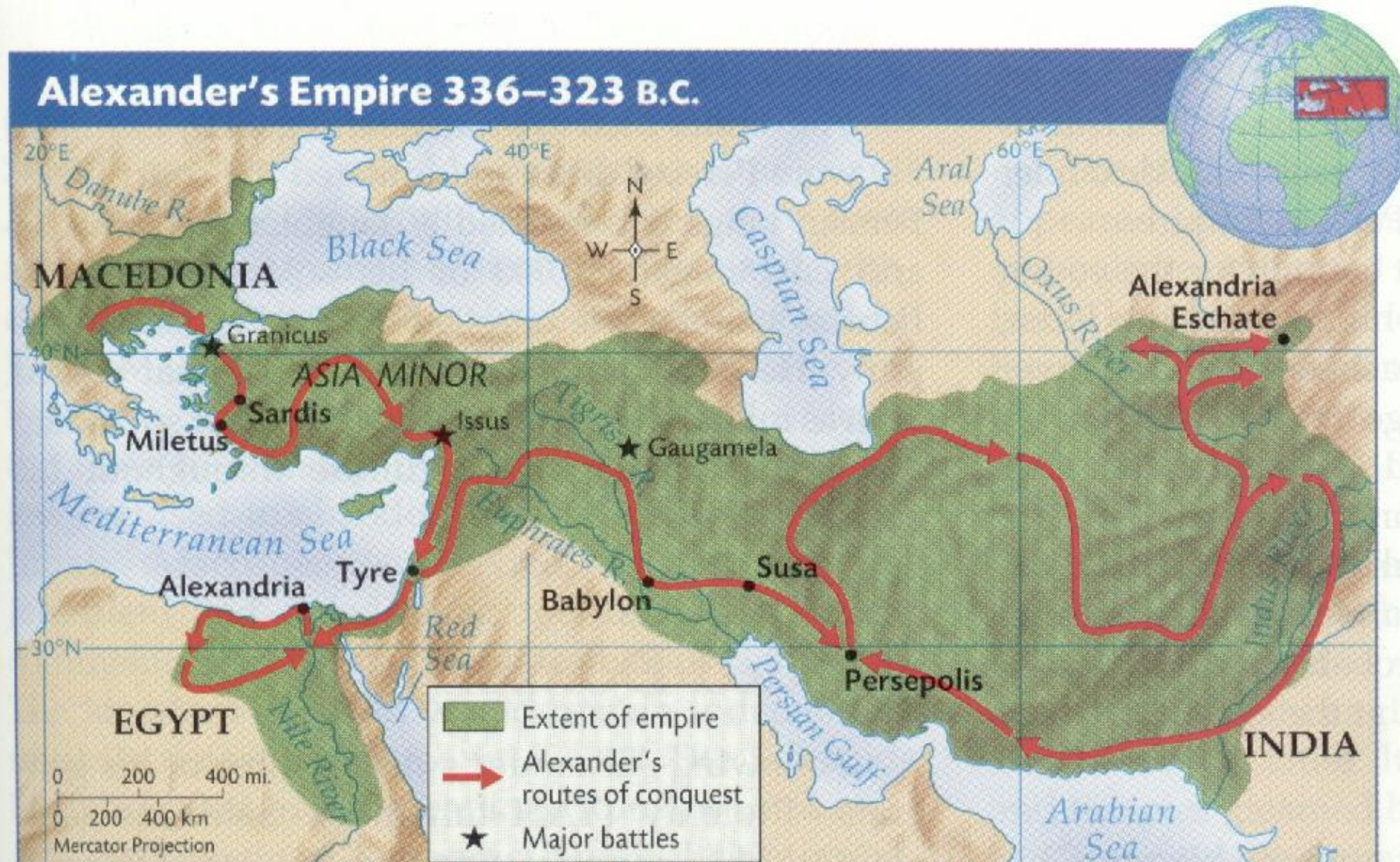
- ✦ Alexander the Great is important because of his creation of one of the largest empires in ancient history & for his military tactics.

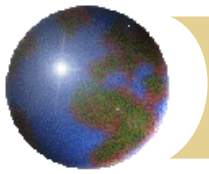






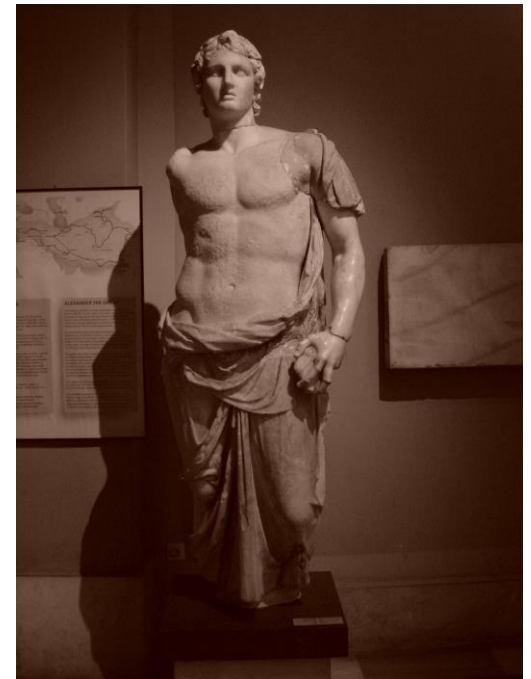
# *Alexander's Empire*



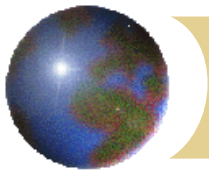


# *Alexander's Legacy*

- ✦ Alexander the Great's legacy is both far reaching and profound. First, his father was able to unite the Greek city-states, and Alexander destroyed the Persian Empire forever. More importantly, Alexander's conquests spread Greek culture, also known as Hellenism, across his empire.
- ✦ In fact, Alexander's reign marked the beginning of a new era known as the Hellenistic Age because of the powerful influence that Greek culture had on other people. Without Alexander's ambition, Greek ideas and culture might well have remained confined to Greece.







# *Thinking about legacy: Greek language & scholarship...*



- ✚ The oldest known New Testament is in what language? GREEK!