

The greatest civilization before ours was the Greek. They, too, lived in a dangerous world. They were a little highly civilized people, surrounded by barbarous and always threatened by the greatest Asian powers, Persia. In the end, they succumbed, but the reason they did was not the enemies outside were strong, but that their spiritual strength had given way. While they had it, they kept Greece unconquered. Basic to all Greek achievements was freedom. The Athenians were only free people in the world. In the great empires of antiquity-Egypt, Babylon, Assyria, and Persia-splendid though they were with riches and immense power, freedom was unknown. The idea of it was born in Greece and with it Greece was able to prevail against all the manpower and wealth arrayed against her. At Marathon and at Salamis overwhelming numbers of Persians were defeated by small Greek forces. It was proved there that one free man was superior to many submissively obedient subjects of a tyrant. And Athens, where the freedom was the dearest possession, was the leader in those amazing victories.

Greece rose to the very height, not because she was big, she was very small; not because she was rich, she was very poor, not even because she was wonderfully gifted. So doubtless were others in the great empires of the ancient world who have gone their way leaving little for us. She rose because there was in the Greeks the greatest spirit that moves in humanity, the spirit that sets man free."

Title : The Freedom and Spirit of Greek Civilization .

The greatest Greek Civilization faced threats from ^{many} great Asian powers, Persia . But their spiritual strength was so great , which kept it unconquered . Greek provides freedom to its citizens . The Athens achieved victories due to this property as they ~~their~~ ^{there} was freedom to its dwellers , that quality lacked in many great empires . Greek rose to the glory not because of its size, wealth, and resources, but due to the greatest spirit that gives man and humanity a freedom .

Passage words = 225

Precise words = 75