

### **Divinity and the Perfect Ruler**

- “If, however, there be some one person... whose virtue is so pre-eminent that the political virtues of all the rest admit of no comparison with his or theirs, he or they can no longer be regarded as part of the state... Such a one may truly be deemed a God among men.”
  - Aristotle. *Politics*. Book III, Chapter 13

### ***Son of Ammon***

- Olympias
- Oracle of Siwah
- *Proskynesis*

### **Virtue Politics**

- *Arete* – “Virtue” or “Excellence”
- Meritocracy

### ***Outstanding Alexander***

- Conquered Egypt to India (known world)
- Footsteps of Heracles and Dionysos
- Gaugamila and Issus
- Rock of Aornus

### **Passion and Politics**

- *Sophia* – Theoretical wisdom
- *Phronesis* – Practical wisdom
- “avoid impossibilities”
- “listen to, and take the advice of, true philosophers. In so doing, he would enrich his reign with good deeds and not merely with fine words.”
  - Aristotle. *On Kingship*

### ***Disregard Troops***

- Revolted twice – Hyphasis & Opis
- “what will be most advantageous in the present circumstances and what will bring the most security in the future.”
  - Koinos
  - Refuses & pouts

- Opis – Killed 13 instigators & pouted
- “He who bids the law rule may be deemed to bid God or Reason rule” since the law, to Aristotle, was reason uninhibited by passion. “But,” he continues, “He who bids man rule adds an element of the beast; for desire is a wild beast, and passion perverts the minds of rulers.”
  - Aristotle. *Politics*. Book III, chapter 16

### ***Pothos***

- *Pothos* - The desire to achieve that which had not been accomplished, and is just beyond reach.
- Siwah Oasis
- Conquer India & see Ocean
- Rock of Aornus
- Gedrosian Desert
  - 85,000 in; 25,000 out
  - 30% remaining
  - No strategic purpose

### **Conclusion**

- Lack of practical wisdom (*Phronesis*)
- Disregards advice
- Guided by passions
- Clearly does not rule for the good of his subjects.