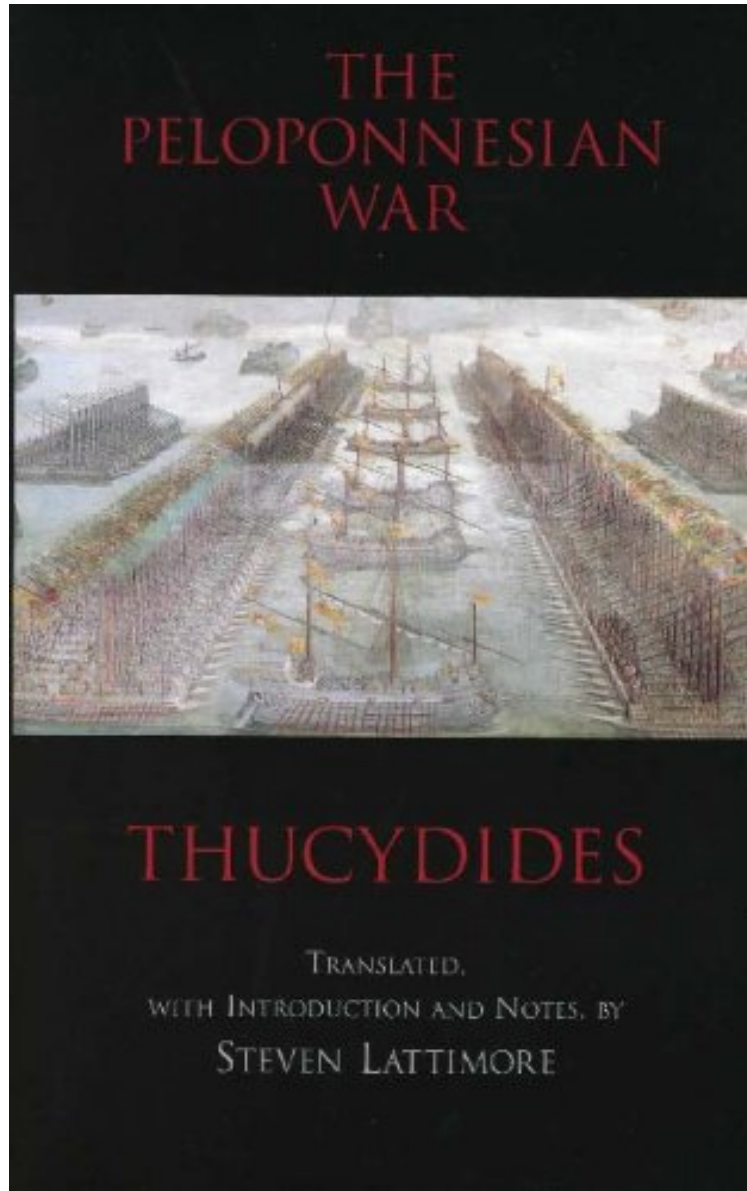


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## The Peloponnesian War

*Von Thucydides, Steven Lattimore*  
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**Von Thucydides, Steven Lattimore : The Peloponnesian War** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Peloponnesian War:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Quite fascinating but need time to trudge throughVon BernieI once was in the U.S. Army. As part of our job we were always encouraged to study history to see how people thought and wars were executed. No war is ever the same so what we

are reading to learn is the why. There is also how people responded to different tactics and strategies. I found this easy to read as the translation made it appear like we were reading today's news. Not just the actions but the politics of the time. There are great descriptions of the time and place. The only thing that is missing is visual maps to put the places in perspective. Luckily you can get maps of the time off the net as a supplement. I have a paperback edition which is easily navigated and you can place sticky notes in. I also have a kindle version which you can put book marks in. the problem with the kindle is the text-to-speech has a horrible time translating place and people names. The advantage of the kindle is it moves you forward so you do not doddle. I am contemplating a hard copy for the library and reverence. There is enough detail that it may require a second reading after you have digested the first. I am also looking for some good books to tell me what I would have noticed in this book. 1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. The best rendition of Thucydides into English yet! Von tdw@u.arizona.edu Steven Lattimore is a master translator of a difficult author. Thucydides invented Athenian intellectual prose; his work was meant not merely to be recited but read and studied; hence he avoids the overly simplistic antitheses that are the hallmarks of forensic prose. He deliberately avoids the easy Ionic style characteristic of Herodotus whose prose is made easy by frequent repetition of etymologically similar words. Thucydides, furthermore, invented argumentation in prose language (so far as we know). Hippocrates may give conditions, symptoms, causes and cures; Thucydides makes generalizing propositions and argues for their truth value. He often uses sentences extending into what are in English whole paragraphs. All this makes his writing difficult to read and interpret and doubly difficult to translate. This translation overcomes the difficulties and yet leaves the reader the impression from the original that he is dealing with something well worth his effort. The many ponderous speeches that pepper the original are rendered in a refreshingly original manner. Lattimore has brought off a tour de force with this magnificent effort. 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Quite fascinating but need time to trudge through Von Bernie I once was in the U.S. Army. As part of our job we were always encouraged to study history to see how people thought and wars were executed. No war is ever the same so what we are reading to learn is the why. There is also how people responded to different tactics and strategies. I found this easy to read as the translation made it appear like we were reading today's news. Not just the actions but the politics of the time. There are great descriptions of the time and place. The only thing that is missing is visual maps to put the places in perspective. Luckily you can get maps of the time off the net as a supplement. I have a paperback edition which is easily navigated and you can place sticky notes in. I also have a kindle version which you can put book marks in. the problem with the kindle is the text-to-speech has a horrible time translating place and people names. The advantage of the kindle is it moves you forward so you do not doddle. I am contemplating a hard copy for the library and reverence. There is enough detail that it may require a second reading after you have digested the first. I am also looking for some good books to tell me what I would have noticed in this book.

**Kurzbeschreibung** The first unabridged translation into American English, and the first to take into account the wealth of Thucydidean scholarship of the last half of the twentieth century, Steven Lattimore's translation sets a new standard for accuracy and reliability. Notes provide information necessary for a fuller understanding of problematic passages, explore their implications as well as the problems they may pose, and shed light on Thucydides as a distinctive literary artist as well as a source for historians and political theorists. *Pressestimmen* [Lattimore] gets closer to the Greek than either of his two available rivals, Richard Crawley and Rex Warner. . . . Lattimore's uncompromising version now leads the field. --Peter Green, "The Los Angeles Times Book "Lattimore . . . has produced the most rigorously accurate translation since Crawley and, in my view, the most true to all ellipses, contractions, twists, ambiguities, and syntactical knots of the original. His willingness to confront, not shirk, the challenges of Thucydides can be seen at every stylistic level, though perhaps more in the speeches and analytical portions than in the purely narrative passages. All this makes it demanding for students, but gives them the closest English experience of what it's like to read Thucydides in Greek. --Steven J. Willett, "Syllecta Classica" "Lattimore's "The Peloponnesian War" challenges and may well supplant the currently popular translations of Rex Warner and Richard Crawley. The table of contents lists events and chapter numbers in detail, thoughtful and useful summaries introduce the eight books, and superb footnotes and a trenchant glossary accompany the text. Maps (of Greece and Sicily, Greece, Syracuse, Pylos and Sphacteria, Athens and its neighbors) are collected conveniently at the end of the text, following the list of works cited, an index of speeches, and a comprehensive general index. In an excellent, concise introduction, Lattimore describes current controversies in Thucydidean scholarship and assesses the historian's prose style. Although Thucydides' style is 'intense when it succeeds, ' he 'occasionally passes beyond concentration into congestion' (p. xviii). Lattimore claims that accuracy is the translator's 'fundamental responsibility' and that whenever the aims of fidelity, clarity and readability come into conflict with one another, ' he has opted for 'fidelity' (p. xix). In general, this approach effectively transmits both the spirit and the substance of Thucydides' prose. For example, in 2. 65.7, defending his war strategy, Pericles assures the Athenians that if they should follow his advice, 'they would prevail.' Lattimore's

translation keeps 'Athenians' as the subject of the verb and remains consistent with Pericles' war aims, which had more to do with survival through endurance than with active, aggressive action. (Cf. Warner's over-stated 'Athens would be victorious' and Crawley's mild but vague 'promised them a favorable result'.) Lattimore's 'they would prevail' seems to strike the note exactly. --George Cawkwell, "New England Classical Journal" "[Lattimore] gets closer to the Greek than either of his two available rivals, Richard Crawley and Rex Warner. . . . Lattimore's uncompromising version now leads the field. --Peter Green, The Los Angeles Times Book Lattimore . . . has produced the most rigorously accurate translation since Crawley and, in my view, the most true to all ellipses, contractions, twists, ambiguities, and syntactical knots of the original. His willingness to confront, not shirk, the challenges of Thucydides can be seen at every stylistic level, though perhaps more in the speeches and analytical portions than in the purely narrative passages. All this makes it demanding for students, but gives them the closest English experience of what it's like to read Thucydides in Greek. --Steven J. Willett, *Syllecta Classica* Lattimore's *The Peloponnesian War* challenges and may well supplant the currently popular translations of Rex Warner and Richard Crawley. The table of contents lists events and chapter numbers in detail, thoughtful and useful summaries introduce the eight books, and superb footnotes and a trenchant glossary accompany the text. Maps (of Greece and Sicily, Greece, Syracuse, Pylos and Sphacteria, Athens and its neighbors) are collected conveniently at the end of the text, following the list of works cited, an index of speeches, and a comprehensive general index. In an excellent, concise introduction, Lattimore describes current controversies in Thucydidean scholarship and assesses the historian's prose style. Although Thucydides' style is 'intense when it succeeds, ' he 'occasionally passes beyond concentration into congestion' (p. xviii). Lattimore claims that accuracy is the translator's 'fundamental responsibility' and that whenever 'the aims of fidelity, clarity and readability come into conflict with one another, ' he has opted for 'fidelity' (p. xix). In general, this approach effectively transmits both the spirit and the substance of Thucydides' prose. For example, in 2. 65.7, defending his war strategy, Pericles assures the Athenians that if they should follow his advice, 'they would prevail.' Lattimore's translation keeps 'Athenians' as the subject of the verb and remains consistent with Pericles' war aims, which had more to do with survival through endurance than with active, aggressive action. (Cf. Warner's over-stated 'Athens would be victorious' and Crawley's mild but vague 'promised them a favorable result'.) Lattimore's 'they would prevail' seems to strike the note exactly. --George Cawkwell, *New England Classical Journal* Kurzbeschreibung The first unabridged translation into American English, and the first to take into account the wealth of Thucydidean scholarship of the last half of the twentieth century, Steven Lattimore's translation sets a new standard for accuracy and reliability. Notes provide information necessary for a fuller understanding of problematic passages, explore their implications as well as the problems they may pose, and shed light on Thucydides as a distinctive literary artist as well as a source for historians and political theorists.