



Lost Civilizations : Ancient Greece

HD



The classical period (480-323 BC) is without a doubt the most brilliant period in the history of Greek civilization, across all the domains; political, artistic, economic, philosophic, scientific....

The Greco-Persian war are the time of the first confrontation between the East and the West. After their victory, the Greek world falls into inter-city fighting, which reaches its peak during the Peloponnesian war, leaving it ruined and exhausted.

Athens, Sparta and Thebes will each become in turn the dominant power of the moment, but none of them will manage to hold together a peaceful and sustainable Greek world.

During a brief period (446-431) called the "Age of Pericles," Hellenism achieves a level of development in Athens that is the high-point of Greek civilization. .

Indeed, through its intellectual richness and the splendor of its monuments Athens surpasses all the other cities: and opening the judiciary to all citizens, compensating public servants, it identifies itself with a triumphant democracy.

However, despite this intellectual brilliance, and despite much maritime activity, Pericles will not be able to realize the economic and spiritually unified Greece of which he no doubt dreamed.

Until 346, the interminable wars continue.

During the Hellenistic period, 323-190 BC, the Greek world and the Oriental world are rivals. From this point forward political life in Greece is no longer organized around cities but around a king: no city remains autonomous, Greek citizens are first of all subjects to a king (the Antigonid dynasty), and the cult of the sovereign completes the polytheism of the archaic and classical eras.

Religion becomes more personal and cults from the Orient (Cybele, Isis, Astarte) spread. The continental ports give way to those of the islands (Delos, Rhodes)

A large part of the population emigrate toward the East and will populate the new cities founded by Alexander and his successors.

Athens manages to maintain its role as intellectual center but the new metropolises of Alexandria, Antioch and Seleucis on the Tigris, attain a size that no Greek city has ever known.

Directed by Jacques VICHET

French Version
English Version

A documentary of 52'

High Definition
HD Cam & Digital Betacam 16/9