**Greek politics: the development of democracy and a different model in Sparta**

This week i am discussing a unique Greek invention: Democracy. They were the first and few other countries have been able to achieve democracy (btw we have not, we are a republic). But most Greek city states followed Athens. There was one big exception: Sparta.

In addition we are going to look at a very well preserved ancient Greek archaeological site named Priene in modern Turkey that preserves the typical elements of an ancient Greek city state.

i am also including an outline that you can use in conjunction with my lecture which i will post tomorrow.

tom

Three Greek City States: Priene, Athens and Sparta Background Age of Colonization-Turner Thesis

 New merchant class with no political power

 Cheap wheat= economic depression small farmers

Priene-Ionian, c. 4-5,000 population, divided into 5 districts-

 Political (council house), Cultural (theater), Commercial

 (Agora), and Religious (Temple of Athena +sanctuaries), and

 Cemetery (Acropolis)

Athens

1. Monarchy to 750 BCE

2. Oligarchy established c. 750

Age of Colonization ends c. 600

Stresses led to DRACO

SOLON elected “reconconciler” in594

a. Divides population by wealth

b. Softens legal system, jury system

c. Olive oil/wine

d. Invites foreign artisans/craftsmen to immigrate

e. Leaves

But problems persist and Athens acquires a

3. TYRANT Pisistratus 560-527

a. Banishes some aristocrats and divides up there land

b. Public works, Dionysian festival

4. DEMOCRACY Clisthenes and Pericles

a. Council of 500 by lottery

b. Popular assembly

c. Ostracism

5. Comments

SPARTA

1. Still a monarchy, but with 2 kings

2. Mythological Constitution of Lycurgus

3. Helots

4. Army life

5. Women