

“Better to lose the money because of me than to lose me because of the money.”

Post by “Don” of November 19, 2024 at 9:30 PM

Although I, of course, have issues with Plutarch, I've always enjoyed his *Sayings of the Spartans*. For example:

Someone on seeing a painting in which Spartans were depicted being slain by Athenians, kept repeating, 'Brave, brave Athenians.' A Spartan cut in with, 'Yes, in the picture!'

Philip wrote at the time when he entered their country, asking whether they wished that he should come as a friend or as a foe; and they made answer, 'Neither.'

A man who was visiting Sparta stood for a long time upon one foot, and said to a Spartan, 'I do [p. 401] not think that you, sir, could stand upon one foot as long as that'; and the other interrupting said, 'No, but there is not a single goose that could not do it.'

Leonidas:

When someone said, 'Because of the arrows of the barbarians it is impossible to see the sun,' he said, 'Won't it be nice, then, if we shall have shade in which to fight them?'

[Plutarch, Apophthegmata Laconica, INTRODUCTION, section 1](#)