

350-340 – Plutarch Expelled from Eretria

Plutarch was the tyrant of Eretria in Euboea (Smith W. 1867). It is unknown whether Plutarch was an immediate successor of Themison of Eretria or whether he was related to Themison by blood in any way (Smith W. 1867). There is no way of determining if any theories are true or not.



Figure 1; Map of Eretria. (Image from; <https://www.weather-forecast.com/locations/Eretria/forecasts/latest>)

Plutarch's rival, Callias of Chalcis allied himself with Philip of Macedon (Smith W. 1867). Under the influence of Meidias, Plutarch's friend, Plutarch appealed for aid

from the Athenians in 354 BCE (Smith W. 1867).

The Athenians granted the application to Plutarch despite resistance of Demosthenes (Smith W. 1867). The command for the expedition was also granted to Phocion (Smith W. 1867). Phocion had defeated Callias at Tamynae in 350 BCE (Smith W. 1867).

Figure 2; Phocion an Athenian statesman and strategos. (Image from; <https://www.britannica.com/biography/Phocion>)

However, Plutarch did not organize himself appropriately in the battle and positioned the Athenians in great peril (Smith W. 1867). There is a theory that it was simply rashness on the part of Plutarch however, Phocion saw it as treachery (Smith W. 1867).

Due to Phocion seeing Plutarch as a traitor (Smith W. 1867). He began treating Plutarch as an enemy and expelled him from Eretria in 349 BCE (Smith W. 1867).



Bibliography

Demosthenes Speeches "On the Peace" and "Plutarchus". Editor, Smith W. Dictionary of Greek and Roman Biography and Mythology. 1867. Boston Press.