

Alexander the Great: A Hero or a Villain?

Directions: Using the following lyrics from “Alexander the Great” written by the heavy metal band Iron Maiden, answer the questions that follow.

My son ask for thyself another
Kingdom for that which I leave
Is too small for thee
(king Philip of Macedonia - 339 b.c.)

Near to the east
In a part of Ancient Greece
In an ancient land called Macedonia
Was born a son
To Philip of Macedon
The legend his name was Alexander

At the age of nineteen
He became the Macedon king
And he swore to free all of Asia minor
By the Aegean sea
In 334 b.c.
He utterly beat the armies of Persia

His name struck fear into hearts of men
Alexander the great
Became a legend amongst mortal men

King Darius the third
Defeated fled Persia
Then Egypt fell to the Macedonian king as well
And he founded the city called Alexandria

By the Tigris river
He met king Darius again
And crushed him again at the battle of Arbela
Entering Babylon
And many treasures he found
Took Persepolis the capital of Persia

He would become the master of Asia
Hellenistic culture he spread far and wide
Their culture was a western way of life
He paved the way for Christianity

Questions:

1. Who was the father of Alexander the Great?
2. Where was Alexander born?
3. At the age of 19, what did Alexander become?
4. Which Persian leader did Alexander defeat?
5. Which places did Alexander conquer?
6. When Alexander conquered a place, what culture spread?