

TEAR OFF THIS PAGE AND CONSULT THE PASSAGES AS YOU TAKE EXAM.

NOTE: English equivalent is beneath the Greek text

An unnamed defendant has killed his wife's lover, named Eratosthenes, after finding them together in his house. In his defense speech to the jury, the speaker talks about adulterers and the legal punishment for adultery.

- 1 “... εὖ γὰρ οἶδ’ ὅτι, εἰ τὴν αὐτὴν γνώμην περὶ τῶν ἄλλων
2 ἔχοιτε, ἦνπερ περὶ ὑμῶν αὐτῶν, οὐκ ἂν εἴη ὅστις οὐκ
3 ἐπὶ τοῖς γεγενημένοις ἀγανακτοίη, ἀλλὰ πάντες ἂν
be distressed at
4 περὶ τῶν τὰ τοιαῦτα ἐπιτηδευόντων τὰς ζημίας μικρὰς
making ... one’s business fines,
penalties
5 ἡγοῖσθε. καὶ ταῦτα οὐκ ἂν εἴη μόνον παρ’ ὑμῖν οὕτως
6 ἐγνωσμένα, ἀλλ’ ἐν ἀπάσῃ τῇ Ἑλλάδι· περὶ τούτου γὰρ
acknowledged
7 μόνου τοῦ ἀδικήματος καὶ ἐν δημοκρατίᾳ καὶ ὀλιγαρχίᾳ
an intentional wrong
8 ἢ αὐτὴ τιμωρία τοῖς ἀσθενεστάτοις πρὸς τοὺς τὰ
punishment the weakest citizens
9 μέγιστα δυναμένους ἀποδέδοται, ὥστε τὸν χεῖριστον
is paid the lowest, worst
10 τῶν αὐτῶν τυγχάνειν τῷ βελτίστῳ· οὕτως, ὦ ἄνδρες,
to incur
(+ genitive)
11 ταύτην τὴν ὕβριν ἅπαντας ἄνθρωποι δεινοτάτην ἡγοῦνται.
12 περὶ μὲν οὖν τοῦ μεγέθους τῆς ζημίας ἅπαντες ὑμᾶς νομίζω
magnitude fine,
penalty
13 τὴν αὐτὴν διάνοιαν ἔχειν, καὶ οὐδένα οὕτως ὀλιγώρως
opinion contemptuously
14 διακεῖσθαι, ὅστις οἶεται δεῖν συγγνώμης τυγχάνειν ἢ
a pardon

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- 15 μικρᾶς ζημίας ἀξίους ἡγεῖται τοὺς τῶν τοιούτων ἔργων
- 16 αἰτίους.
- 17 ἡγοῦμαι δέ, ὦ ἄνδρες, τοῦτό με δεῖν ἐπιδείξαι, ὥς
- 18 ἐμοίχευεν Ἐρατοσθένης τὴν γυναῖκα τὴν ἐμὴν καὶ ἐκείνην
committed Eratosthenes
adultery (with)
- 19 τε διέφθειρε καὶ τοὺς παῖδας τοὺς ἐμούς ἥσχυνε καὶ ἐμέ
ruined dishonored
- 20 αὐτὸν ὕβρισεν εἰς τὴν οἰκίαν τὴν ἐμὴν εἰσιῶν, καὶ οὔτε
- 21 ἔχθρα ἐμοὶ καὶ ἐκείνῳ οὐδεμία ἦν πλὴν ταύτης, οὔτε
hatred
- 22 χρημάτων ἔνεκα ἔπραξα ταῦτα, ἵνα πλούσιος ἐκ πένητος
poverty
- 23 γένωμαι, οὔτε ἄλλου κέρδους οὐδενὸς πλὴν τῆς κατὰ
profit,
gain
- 24 τοὺς νόμους τιμωρίας. ἐγὼ τοίνυν ἐξ ἀρχῆς ὑμῖν ἅπαντα
- 25 ἐπιδείξω τὰ ἐμαυτοῦ πράγματα, οὐδὲν παραλείπων, ἀλλὰ
omitting,
neglecting
- 26 λέγων τὰληθῆ· ταύτην γὰρ ἐμαυτῷ μόνην ἡγοῦμαι
- 27 σωτηρίαν, ἐὰν ὑμῖν εἰπεῖν ἅπαντα δυνηθῶ
- 28 τὰ πεπραγμένα.”
things that happened