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Persian Fire: The First World Empire and the Battle for the West is a historical study of the Persian Empire by popular historian Tom Holland, first published in 2005. It won the Runciman Award .

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Persian fire : the first world empire and the battle for ...

Persian Fire: The First World Empire and the Battle for the West by Tom Holland 418pp, Little, Brown, £20

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In the same manner, this book's title is "Persian Fire" but, after an initial account of the raise of the Persian empire/emperors, it really zooms in on the bravery and faults of Athens, Sparta and other Greek towns around the Aegean sea including Ionia in today's turkey, coming together - or many times not - against the Persian common gigantic foe.

Persian Fire: The First World Empire, Battle for the West ...

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Persian Fire: The First World Empire and the Battle for ...

Thermopylae was the second of the five important battles of the Greco-Persian War. The first, occurring in 490 B.C., ten years before the others, was Marathon, in which the Greeks routed the Persians, giving them confidence that they could hold their own against the invading barbarians, whatever their superiority in numbers.

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