[1] Tote de; kai; presbei" ejk basilew" ajfikonto Domnikov" te kai; Maximino", ejk boulh" a[mfw, ejf w|/ thn eijrhnhn kata; tade poihsontai. [2] Oujittigin me;n plouvtou to; h{misu tou' basilikou' feresqai, cwra" te a[rcein h}/ejkto;" Pavdou potamou' ejsti: twh de; dh; crhmatwn to; h{misu basilew" eihai, kai; aujton o{sa ejnto;" Pavdou potamou' ejstin uJphkoa ej" ajpagwghn fovrou poihsasqai. [3] Belisariw/ te oiJ presbei" ta; basilew" grammata deixante" ej" iJRavbennan ejkomisqhsan. maqonte" de; Govtqoi kai; Oujittigi" ejf w|/ h{koien, a[smenoi kata; tau'ta wJmologhsan ta;" sponda;" qhsesqai. [4] A{per ajkousa" Belisario" h[scallen, ejn xumfora/ megalh/ poioumeno", eij mh; ti" aujton ejwh, parwn oujdeni; ponw/, tou' te kravto" tou' polemou panto;" feresqai kai; doruavlwton Oujittigin ej" Buzantion ajgageih. [5] jEpeidhv te oiJ presbei" ejk iJRavbennh" pro;" aujton i{konto, grammasin oijkeioi" ejpirrwvsai ta;" xunqhka" h{kista h[gelen. [6] {Wnper oiJ Govtqoi aijsqomenoi nw/te dolerw/thn eijrhnhn sfisi iJRwmaious" proteinesqai uJpetopazon, kai; uJpoyia/ ej" aujtou;" megalh/ ejcrwhto, ajntikru" te h[dh e[faskon a[heu twh Belisariou grammatwn te kai; o[rkwn oujpote xunqhka" pro;" aujtou;" qhsesqai. [7] jAkousa" de; Belisario" loidorei'sqai voiJ twh ajrcontwn tina;", wJ" dh; ejpibouleuwn toi" basilew" pragmasi ton polemon kataluein oujdamw" bouvloito, xugkalesa" a{panta", Domnikou te kai; Maximinou parontwn, e[lexe toiade: [8] Thn me;n tou' polemou tuchn ejn tw/ ajsfalei' w|/ h{kista estanai aujtov" te oiJda kai; uJmwh e{kaston taujta vmoi ginwskein uJper aujth" oihai. [9] Pollou" te ga;r ejpidoxo", o{ti dh; ej" aujtou;" ajfixetai, ousa h|Jth" nikh" e[lpi;" e[sfhle, kai; toi" hjtuchkenai dokou'si twh e[cqrwh h[dh para; doxan perieihai xunebh. [10] Dio; dh; v fhmi crhhai tou;" uJper th" eijrhnh" bouleuomenou" ouj thn ajgaqhn ejlpida proballesqai monon, ejf ejkatera de; thn ajpobasin e[sesqai sfisin ejn nw/ e[conta", ou{tw thn ai{resin poiei'sqai th" gnwmh". [11] Toutwn de; toioutwn o[ntwn, uJma" te tou;" xunarconta" kai; tousde tou;" basilew" presbei" xuneisagein e[doxen e[moige, o[pw" ejn tw/ paronti kat ejxousian e{lomenoi o{ti a]n basilei' xunoisein dokh/, mhpote v tina ojpisw twh pragmatwn kat ejmou' poihshsqe memyin. [12] Twh ga;r ajtopwtatwn a]n eih siwpah me;n ejw" e[xestin

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e)xele/sqai ta; krei/ssw, skopou/menoi" de; th;n a)po; th"" tu/ch" a)po/basin ta;" ai)ti/a" poiei/sqai. [13] {Osa me;n ou)=n e)" th;n tou' pole/mou dia/lusin basilei' te dedo/ktai kai; Ou)ittigi/di boulome/nw| e)sti/n, e)pistasqe dh/pou. [14] Ei) de; kai; u(mi=n xumfora tau'ta ei)=nai dokei=, lege/tw parelqw;n e(/kasto". Ei) me/ntoi pa'san te)Itali/an oi)/esqe)Rwmai/oi" a)naswsasqai oi(=o/n te ei)=nai kai; tw=n polemi/wn th;n e)pikra/thsin poih/sasqai, ou)de;n kwlu/sei mhde;n u(posteila/menou" ei)pei=h.

[15] Tau'ta e)pei; Belisa/rio" ei)=pen, a)/pante" a)ntikru" a)pefh/nanto ta; basile/w" bouleu/mata be/ltista ei)=nai, kai; ou)de;n au)toi=" oi(=o/n" te e)/sesqai peraite/rw tou;" polemi/ou" e)rga/zesqai. [16] Belisa/rio" de; h)sqei;" tw=n a)rco/ntwn th/ gnw/mh/ gra/mmasin au)th;n h(/xiou dhlw=sai, w(/" mh/pote au)th;n a)rnhqei=en. Oi(/ de; kai; gra/yante" e)n biblidi/w| e)dh/loun ou(/c oi(=o/n" te ei)=nai perie/sesqai tw= pole/mw tw=n e)nanti/wn.

[17] Tau'ta me;n e)n tw=)Rwmai/wn stratope/dw| e)gi/neto. Go/tqoi de; tw= limw=/ piezo/menoi ou)ke/ti te a)nte/cein th/ talaipwri/a/ duna/menoi Ou)ittigi/do" me;n th/ a)rch/ h)/cqonto a(/te w(=" ma/lista dedustuchko/to", basilei' de; prosc/wrei=h w|)knoun, dedio/te" a)/llo me;n ou)de/n, o)/pw" de; mh; dou'loi basile/w" geno/menoi e)/k te)Itali/a" a)ni/stasqai a)nagka/zointo kai; e)" Buza/ntion i)o/nte" e)ntau'qa i(dru/sesqai. [18])En sfi/sin ou)=n au)toi=" bouleusa/menoi, ei[ti e)n Go/tqoi" ka/qaron h)=h, basile/a th"" e(speri/a" Belisa/rion a)neipei=h e)gnwsan. Pe/myante" de; par' au)to/n laqra e)de/onto e)" th;n basilei/an kaqi/stasqai: tau/th/ gar au)tw=/ a(/smenoi e(/yesqai i)scuri/zonto. [19] Belisa/rio" de; katasth/hai me;n e)" th;n a)rch/n ou(/c e)ko/nto" basile/w" h)/kista h)/qele. [20] Tw= te gar tou' tura/nnou o)no/mati u(perfuw=" h)/cqeto kai; o)/rkoi" deino/tatoi" pro;" basile/w" katalhfqei;" pro/teron e)/tuce, mh/pote au)tou' perio/nto" newterieih: o)/pw" de; ta; paro/nta w(=" a)/rista dioikh/shtai, a)sme/nw" e)/doxe tou;" tw=n barba/rwn lo/gou" e)nde/cesqai. [21] \Wn dh; ai)sqo/meno" Ou)i/ttigi" e)/deise/ te kai; Go/tqou" w(=" be/ltista bebouleu'sqai ei)pw;n Belisari/w/ kai; au)to;" laqra parh/hei e)" th;n basilei/an i)e/nai: ou)de/na gar oi(/ e)mpodw;n sth/sesqai. [22] Kai; to/te dh; Belisa/rio" au)qi;" tou/" te basile/w" pre/sbei" kai; pa/nta" xugkale/sa" tou;" a)/rconta" h)/rwta, ei) au)toi="" lo/gou

pollou' a]xion ei#nai dokei' Go/tqou" te a[panta" xu;n Oujittigidi dorualw/tou" poih/sasqai, kai; crh/mata me;n pa/nta lhi/sasqai, jItali/an de; ïRwmai/oi" xu/mpasan ajnasw/sasqai. [23] Oij de; u[yhlo/n te kai; u[perogkon tou'to ïRwmai/oi" eujtu/chma e[faskon e[sesqai, kai; pra/ssein aujto;n oujh a}n dunhtai'n ti w|' ta/cista h|/xioun. [24] Aujti/ka gou#n para/ te Oujittigin kai; Go/tqwn tou;" dokimou;" Belisa/rio" twh# ejpithdei/wn tina;" e[pemye, keleu/wn ejpitelh' poih/sein ejpithdei/wn tina;" e[pemye, keleu/wn ejpitelh' poih/sein o[sa u[pe/sconto. [25] Ouj de; ga;r aujtou;" ej'" a[llon tina; cro/non th;n pra'xin ajpoti/qesqai oJ limo;" xunecw/rei, ajll je[ti ma'llon ejgkei/meno" ej'" tau/thn ejnh'ge. [26] Dio; kai; presbei'" ej'" to; ïRwmai/wn strato/pedon ste/llousin au[qi", a[llo me;n o[ti dh; ej'" to; plh'qo" ejrou#ta", ejn parabustw/ de; pro;" Belisari/ou ta; pista; lhyome/nou", w|' ajcari;n te aujtw#h# ejrga/setai oujde/na kai; basileu;" to; loipo;n jItaliw/twh aujto;" kai; Go/tqwn eij#, ou[tw te xu;n aujtw/ kai; tw/ ïRwmai/wn stratw/ ej'" ïRa/bennan h[xonta". [27] Belisa/rio" de; ta; me;n a[lla w/mose a[panta, kaqa/per oiJ presbei'" h|xi/oun, u[pe;r de; th'" basilei/a" aujtw/ Oujittigidi kai; Go/tqwn toi'" a[rcousin ojmei'sqai e[fh. [28] Kai; aujto;n oiJ presbei'" oujk a}n pote ajposei/sesqai th;n basilei/an oijo/menoi, ajll je[fie/sqai aujth'" pa/ntwn ma/lista, aujti/ka dh; ma'la ej'" ïRa/bennan xu;n aujtoi'" ejke/leuon ije/nai. [29] Kai; to/te dh; Belisa/rio" Be/ssan te kai; jIwa/nnhn kai; Narsh'n kai; jAra/tion, tou/tou" ga;r oiJ w|/ ma/lista du/snou" ei#nai u[pw/pteuen, a[llon ajlla/cose xu;n toi'" e[pome/noi" ejke/leuen ije/nai ta/n te ajnagkai/a sfi/si pori/zesqai: aujtw/ ga;r oujke/ti e[faske dunata; ei#nai ej'" tou'to dh; to; cwri/on panti; tw/ stratw/ ta; ejpith/deia ejskomi/zesqai. [30] Kai; oiJ me;n kata; tau'ta ejpoi/oun, xu;n jAqanasi/w/ tw/ twh# praitwri/wn u[parcw/, a[rti h[konti ejk Buzanti/ou, aujto;" de; tw/ a[llw/ strateu/mati su;n Go/tqwn toi'" presbesin ej'" ïRa/bennan h|ei. [31] Kai; nhw#n sto/lon ejmplhsa/meno" si/tou kai; twh# a[llwn ejpithdei/wn ejke/leue kata; ta/co" ej'" Kla/sse" to;n lime/na ejsplei#n. ou[tw ga;r ïRwmai#oi to; ïRabe/nnh" proa/steion kalou#sin, ou| oJ limh;n ejsti/n. [32] jEmoi; de; to/te diaskopoume/nw/ th;n ej'" ïRa/bennan ei[sodon tou' ïRwmai/wn stratou' e[nnoia/ ti" ejge/neto, ajnqrw/pwn me;n xunese/i h] th/ a[llh/ ajreth/ w/ h[kista perai/nesqai ta;

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prassomena, eiJnai dev ti daimonion, oJper aujtwv ajei; strevfon ta;" dianoiva"
ejntaujqa ajgei oujdh; kwluvmh ti" toi" perainomevnoi" oujdemia eJstai. [33] Tou;"
ga;r ejnantivou" oiJ Govtqoi plhvqei kai; dunavmei para; polu; uJperaivronte" kai; ouvte
mavch/ diakriqevnte", ejpei; ejn iJRabevnnh/ ejgevnonto, ouvte aJllw/ oJtwvouvh
dedoulwmevnoi to; frovnhma, dorualwvtoivte pro;" twh ejlassovnwn ejgivnonto kai; to;
th" douleiva" oJnoma ejn uJbrei oujdemiaJ/hJgon. [34] AiJ de; gunaivke", ejtugcanon ga;r
pro;" twh ajndrwh ajkhkoui'ai megavlou" te ta; swvmata kai; ajriqmou' kreivssou"
tou;" polemivou" eiJnai, ta; provswpa twh ajndrwh pa'sai ajpevptuon, ejpeidh;
aJpanta" ejpi; th" povlew" kaqhmevnou" eiJdon, kai; tai'" cersivn ejndeiknumenai tou;"
nenikhkovta" thvn ajnandrivan wjneivdizon.
[35] Belisavrio" de; Oujittigin me;n ouj xu;n ajtimiva/ ejn fulakh'/ eiJce, twh de;
barbavrwn oJsoi ejnto;" Pavdou potamou' wJkhnto, ej" ajgrou;" tou;" sfeterou"
ijonta", ejkevleuen aujtwh kat'ejxousivan ejpimelei'sqai. [36] Polevmion ga;r oiJ
oujdevn ejntaujqa uJpwvpteuen ejsesqai, oujde; Govtqou" pote; tauvth/xusthvsesqai,
ejpei; pollou;" provteron tou' iJRwmaivwn stratou' ej" ta; ejkeivnh/ cwriva
katasthsavmeno" ejtucen. OiJ de; kata; tavco" aJsmenoi hJesan. [37] Ouvtw te
iJRwmai'oi ejn tw'/ ajsfalei' hJdh ejgivnonto. Ouj ga;r eJti Govtqwn ejn ge iJRabevnnh/
plhvqei hJsswhto. Meta; de; ta; ejn Palativw/crhvmata ejlaben, aJper diakomivzein
basilei' eJmelle. [38] Govtqwn ga;r oujdena ouvte aujto;" ejlhivsato ouvte aJllw/tw/
lhivsasqai xunecwvrhsen, ajll'aujtwh eJkasto" thn oujsivan kata; ta; xugkeivmena
dieswvsato.
[39] ᾿Epei; de; twh barbavrwn oJsoi ej" twh cwrivwn ta; ejcurwvtata fulakh;n eiJcon
iJRabevnnan te kai; Oujittigin pro;" iJRwmaivwn ejcesqai hJkousan, presbei" para;
Belisavrion ejpempon, sfa'" te aujtou;" oJmologiva/ paradidonai kai; aJper
ejfulasson ajxiouhvte". [40] Kai; oJ", aJpasi ta; pista; proqumovtata
parascovmeno", Tarbhvsion te kai; ei[ti aJllo ejn Benetivoi" oJcurwma hh
paresthvsato. Kaisthha ga;r ejn Aijmilivia/monh ejleleipto, hh dh; provteron xu;n
iJRabevnnh/parasthsavmeno" ejtuce. [41] Kai; Govtqoi me;n aJpante", oJsoi touvtwn dh;
twh cwrivwn hJrcon, ejpeidh; tavcista ta; pista; ejlabon, para; Belisavrion hJkonte"
aujtou'eJmenon: ᾿IJldivbado" de;, ajnh;r dokimo", oJsper froura" th" ejn Berwvnh/hJrce,
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presbei" men ej" Belisarion ejf/oi|per oi/a|lloi kai; aujto;" ejpemyen, ejpei; kai;
tou;" pai'da" tou;" aujtou' ejn ïRabennh/euhwn Belisario" e/scen, oujmhn oulte ej"
ïRabennan hlqen oulte Belisariw/ uJpoceirio" gegone. Tuch gar ti" aujtw/
xuneboh, hÁn dh; ejgw; aujtika dhlwsw.