

THE CHARACTER OF CATILINE'S FOLLOWERS

GRAMMAR ASSUMED:

Infinitives;
Indirect Statement

WHEELOCK: CHAPTER 25

This passage comes from the second of Cicero's speeches against Catiline. Although Catiline has left Rome, several of his followers have remained in the city, where, according to Cicero, they pose a threat to the security of the state.

Sed cūr tam diū dē ūnō hoste (Catilinā) dīcimus, et dē eō
hoste quī iam dīcit sē esse hostem, et quem, quod mūrus¹
interest, nōn timeō: dē hīs, quī in mediā urbe, quī nōbīs-
cum sunt, nihil dīcimus? Expōnam enim vōbīs, o cīvēs,
5 genera hominum ex quibus istae cōpiae parantur. Ūnum
genus est eōrum quī (magnō in aere aliēnō) magnās etiam
possessiōnēs habent, quārum amōre adductī dissolvī nullō⁴
modō possunt. Sed hōs hominēs nōn putō timendōs⁴
(esse), quod dēdūcī dē sentiētiā (suā) possunt.

10 Alterum genus est eōrum quī, quamquam premuntur⁶
aere aliēnō, imperium tamen expectant atque honōrēs⁷
quōs, rē publicā perturbātā, cōsequī sē posse putant. Qui-
bus hoc non spērandum est. Nam illīs hoc intellegendum
est: primum omnium mē ipsum vigilāre, adesse, prōvidēre
15 reī publicae; deinde magnōs animōs esse in bonīs virīs,
magnam concordiam ordinum, maximam multitudinem,
magnās militum cōpiās; deōs dēnique immortālēs huic
invictō populō, clārō imperiō, pulchrae urbī contrā tantam
vim sceleris auxilium esse datūrōs. Num illī in cinere urbis
20 et in sanguine cīvium sē cōsulēs aut dictātōrēs aut etiam
rēgēs spērant futūrōs (esse)?

—adapted from Cicero, *Against Catiline* 2.17–19

¹ as in, with of a city ² Catiline's accomplices ³ passive infinitive ⁴ "ought to be feared"
⁵ "there is" ⁶ to burden/weigh down ⁷ dative of agent

VOCABULARY:

tam (adverb): so

Catilinā, -ae, m.: Catiline, conspirator thwarted by Cicero in 63 B.C.

mūrus, -ī, m.: city wall (Catiline has fled from Rome)

intersum, -esse, -fuī, -futūrus: to be between, lie between (us)

expōnō, -ere, -posuī, -positus: to set forth, explain

aes aliēnum, aeris aliēnī, n.: debt ("another's money")

quārum amōre adductī: "induced by love of which"

addūcō, -ere, -dūxī, -ductus: to induce, persuade

dissolvō, -ere, -solvī, -solūtus: to free (from debt)

dēdūcō, -ere, -dūxī, -ductus: to lead away, dissuade

quamquam (conjunction): although

honor, -ōris, m.: honor, public office

perturbō (1): to disturb, throw into confusion

cōsequī: to acquire (present infinitive of a deponent verb; translate actively)

posse: translate as if it were a future infinitive

quibus = illīs hominibus

primum ... deinde ... dēnique ...: 3 indirect statements

vigilō (1): to be watchful, be awake, be vigilant

adsum, -esse, -fuī, -futūrus: to be present to help, to assist

concordia, -ae, f.: harmony, concord

ōrdō, -dinis, m.: rank, order, socio-economic class

maximus, -a, -um: very great, greatest

dēnique (adverb): finally, last (in a list)

invictus, -a, -um: invincible

tantus, -a, -um: so great, so large

auxilium, -iī, n.: aid, assistance

num: introduces a question expecting a negative answer ("they don't hope that they will be ... , do they?")

cinis, -neris, m.: ash, ashes

sanguis, -inis, m.: blood, bloodshed

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