For the disaster at Chaeronea was the beginning of misfortune for all the Greeks, and especially did it enslave those who had been blind to the danger and such as had sided with Macedon. Most of their cities Philip captured; with Athens he nominally came to terms, but really imposed the severest penalties upon her, taking away the islands and putting an end to her maritime empire. For a time the Athenians remained passive, during the reign of Philip and subsequently of Alexander. But when on the death of Alexander the Macedonians chose Aridaeus to be their king, though the whole empire had been entrusted to Antipater, the Athenians now thought it intolerable if Greece should be forever under the Macedonians, and themselves embarked on war besides inciting others to join them. [...] 

Each city ranged under the alliance had its own general, but as commander-in-chief was chosen the Athenian Leosthenes, both because of the fame of his city and also because he had the reputation of being an experienced soldier. He had already proved himself a general benefactor of Greece. All the Greeks that were serving as mercenaries in the armies of Darius and his satraps Alexander had wished to deport to Persia, but Leosthenes was too quick for him, and brought them by sea to Europe. On this occasion too his brilliant actions surpassed expectation, and his death produced a general despair which was chiefly responsible for the defeat. A Macedonian garrison was set over the Athenians and occupied first Munychia and afterwards Peiraeus also and the Long Walls.

For Leosthenes perceived that the whole of Greece was humiliated and cowed, corrupted by men who were accepting bribes from Philip and Alexander against their native countries. He realized that our city stood in need of a commander, and Greece herself of a city, able to assume the leadership, and he gave himself to his country and the city to the Greeks, in the cause of freedom. After raising a mercenary force he took command of the citizen army and defeated the first opponents of Greek freedom, the Boeotians, Macedonians and Euboeans, together with their other allies, in battle in Boeotia. Thence he advanced to Pylae and occupied the pass through which, in bygone days as well, barbarians marched against the Greeks. He thus prevented the inroad of Antipater into Greece, and overtaking him in that vicinity, defeated him in battle and shut him into Lamia, which he then besieged.

Leosthenes, who had plunged the city into the Lamian war much to Phocion's displeasure, once asked him derisively what good he had done the city during the many years in which he had been general. ‘No slight good,’ said Phocion, ‘in that its citizens are buried in their own sepulchres.’ [2] Again, when Leosthenes was talking very boldly and boastfully in the assembly, Phocion said: ‘Thy speeches, young man, are like cypress-trees, which are large and towering, but bear no fruit.’ And when Hypereides confronted him with the question, ‘When, then, O Phocion, wilt thou counsel the Athenians to go to war?’ ‘Whenever,’ said Phocion, ‘I see the
young men willing to hold their places in the ranks, the rich to make contributions, and the orators to keep their thievish hands away from the public moneys.’ [3] When many were admiring the force got together by Leosthenes and were asking Phocion what he thought of the city's preparations, ‘They are good,’ said he, ‘for the short course; but it is the long course which I fear in the war, since the city has no other moneys, or ships, or men-at-arms.’ [4] And events justified his fear. […]