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Dositheus  
Joint Crisis: Third Servile Revolt  
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Salve suorum. Greetings. I am Dositheus, chief military strategist of the slaves during the Third Servile Revolt and leader of the families of the slaves. Although I can only be of minimal help in battle, as I lost a hand in combat, I can help significantly with my knowledge of the battlefield. The use of slaves in Rome must be discontinued. They have been oppressed and treated harshly for far too long, and we must band together to fight the oppressors. I can use my expertise as a horseback rider to teach the younger slaves the necessary skills, creating a much more mobile, powerful army. Due to the large size of the Roman army, it is imperative that we amass a substantial amount of soldiers loyal to our revolt, who can be trained in the art of fighting. We must also use stealth and guerilla warfare to limit our casualties and create a political revolution of a disastrous scope for slave owners and politicians alike.

Unemployment rates are rising rapidly due to the use of slaves for jobs that Roman workers used to do. The countryside has become densely populated with people enslaved by the rich, forced to do work under harsh conditions. We must recruit these slaves, and have them steal resources from their masters before departing for our ranks.

As an army, we must not resort to retreating from Rome to lead new lives; we must assist all of our enslaved comrades to end the industry indefinitely. To ensure our success, we must strategically train a force that is incredibly versatile, while continuing to free slaves to join our causes.

The Roman senate believes that we are more of a bother than a threat, as they think that slaves could have no knowledge of military tactics. They sent their inexperienced forces, led by Gaius Cluadius Glaber, to take care of us, but in turn, we outsmarted them and destroyed their forces, and looted their camp for resources and weapons. We must prey on their perception of us; if they continue sending inexperienced forces, they will be easily defeated and word of our campaign will spread rapidly.

Communication will be key in the coming months. It can be used to broadcast our victories across Rome, instilling fear into the enemy army. This would cause many deserters who would either successfully flee the Roman army, or suffer decimation from their commanders.

It can also be used to collect resources and grow our army. We must be in contact with slaves who would betray their masters and join the cause, as well as being in contact with wealthy politicians who look favourably towards our cause. We must also invite ex-Roman soldiers who believe that the slave trade is unjust to join our ranks. These methods will

aggressively grow our ranks, as once people see the strength of our movement, they will be inclined to join themselves.

It is vital that we create political allies, specifically within the Comitia Centuriata, as they could cause unrest in the political chain of command, providing our army more time to prepare for any pending attacks. As well, these political allies could notify our army of the movements of our enemies, so we can strategically maneuver our army to create an ambush situation and decimate their ranks. We must always be prepared for an attack, as quickness and surprise will be our greatest allies against the much bigger army that the Romans command.

As there are just under 5 million slaves in the Roman Republic, the revolts have the potential to be an immense military threat, as well as a large economic strain on Rome. As their economy revolves around farming and trade, the departure of many slaves that worked in agriculture will cause a recession. To maximize the recession and weaken the Roman government, we must target the mines to release all slaves working there, as well as targeting the gladiatorial arenas to add to the strength of our army, as well as disrupt the incredible economic opportunities that the duels entailed. The economic disturbances would put into question the current government's ability to lead, and could lead to monumental political changes.

Finally, I believe that it is crucial that we make steps to quell the many disease outbreaks that occur in Rome to maintain the health of our army. We must stop using public bathrooms and baths and have ex-slaves that are trained in the medical industry to research ways to cleanse these facilities and try to find cures for these diseases.

In conclusion, I, Dositheus believe that the rebels can cause a political and military revolution that will discontinue slavery across Rome. We will have to be incredibly strategic, build our army and resources, and create influential allies in order to succeed. The Third Servile War will live on in history as the military revolution that ended the horrible tradition of slavery in Rome forever.

## Citations

SSUNS Background Guide

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