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## [The Sacred Tales - suite]

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## Présentation de la fiche

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## Références éditoriales

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Come now, let me tell of a recent trip to 42 late summer Cyzicus, which took place on the same month and 170 A.D. almost on the same days, four years later, in the following Olympiad. It was not different from the former trip. For on the first day I fasted, and the water was bad. And at the same time, it became clear through the multitude of mosquitoes that I would have to forego sleep. And on the following day, after having eaten a little gruel, I travelled at early dawn. And on my return, I stopped at the warm springs, since it rained, and this too was foretold. But when I came back, I concluded the fasting, which had been imposed until the following day. And moreover the matter of my stay in the city 43 happened nearly as had been foretold. For the following appeared in my dream. I had asked the God to give a sign, since there were lawsuits and my friends begged me to come. I dreamed that I was 44 looking for an opportunity of approaching the Emperor, and that while he was sacrificing I happened to be lying down. When the gasping cock was near my hands, I grabbed it and received the omen, and as I held it in my hands, I began my address. And all of this was

inspired from the Homeric passage when Odysseus, having filled his cup, addresses and speaks to Achilles. But the words ran somewhat as follows. "For the good of the Emperor, for the good also of both Emperors, as even for all of us." He marvelled; and when he had tested my rhetoric, he said that he valued it at any price, and added "if there is also an audience of about fifty present at this speech." And I said in reply, "If you wish, Emperor, there will also be an audience and," I said, "so that you may marvel, these things which you now say have been foretold to me by Asclepius." And I was prepared to show him what had been written. After this, he turned away somewhere, and I considered that this was the best occasion for the rhetorical display. After this, I dreamed that I was walking toward Cyzicus. This was what prompted me.

Then when I was in the city, the Governor's staff<sup>81</sup> as well as the other men were very eager. Nevertheless I did not make a public appearance, although they expected me daily and did marvellous things. But I lectured at home to the most distinguished and the prophecy of the dream was nearly fulfilled, for the gathering was about fifty men.

autumn

But when my stay grew long, although I was 170 A.D.

pleased both by the place and the present circumstances, I had other dreams which uprooted me, and were quite clear that the upper part of the Hellespont was not suitable for a stay. Therefore we returned. For the national sacrifice of Olympian Zeus was drawing near, and there were additional indications from all sides that I must be present and sacrifice. It also happened, during this time, that my body was in the most comfortable and cheerful state from the time that I first was sick. For as long as we were in Cyzicus and afterwards, when we returned, for six whole months in a row, my condition was at its strongest, and I arose at

close as possible to my old nature. And nothing of my accustomed practice was neglected, so that all congratulated me, both privately and publicly.

dawn, and took long walks many times during the day, and I was as

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81 V 46 I emend των του ήγεμόνος for των ήγεμόνων mss.; cf. IV 99 (Note 69).



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