NOTHING LESS THAN VICTORY

DECISIVE WARS AND THE LESSONS OF HISTORY

JOHN DAVID LEWIS

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY PRESS PRINCETON AND OXFORD
## CONTENTS

List of Maps and Illustrations vii  
Acknowledgments ix  

**Introduction**  
Victory and the Moral Will to Fight 1  

**Chapter 1**  
"To Look without Flinching":  
The Greco-Persian Wars, 547–446 BC 11  

**Chapter 2**  
"Only One Omen Is Best":  
The Theban Wars, 382–362 BC 36  

**Chapter 3**  
"I Will Have My Opponent":  
The Second Punic War, 218–201 BC 68  

**Chapter 4**  
"A Prince Necessary Rather Than Good":  
The Campaigns of Aurelian, AD 270–275 109  

**Chapter 5**  
"The Hard Hand of War":  
Sherman's March through the American South, AD 1864–1865 141  

**Chapter 6**  
"The Balm for a Guilty Conscience":  
British Appeasement and the Prelude to  
World War II, AD 1919–1939 184  

**Chapter 7**  
"Gifts from Heaven":  
The American Victory over Japan, AD 1945 237  

**Conclusion**  
The Lessons of the Victories 286  

Notes 295  
Bibliography 323  
Index 345