

STUDY GUIDE: The Feuds of Ares & Demeter

Ares vs. Hephaestus

[section1]

- Cause
 1. Hephaestus & Aphrodite's Marriage:
 - Hephaestus' mother Hera casts Hephaestus away from Mount Olympus down to Earth early in his life from fear of having crippled son
 - As an adult, Hephaestus returns to Olympus with gifts for the gods including a cursed throne which traps his mother, Hera
 - Zeus then offers marriage of Aphrodite to the god who frees Hera, which ends up being Hephaestus; Aphrodite marries him reluctantly, then falls in love with Ares
 2. Aphrodite Falls for Ares:
 - Eros hands Ares his javelin to prove how strong he is
 - Aphrodite witnesses and falls in love
- Effect
 1. The Affair:
 - Ares goes to bed with Aphrodite in secrecy inside Aphrodite & Hephaestus' palace
 - Helios finds out and immediately tells Hephaestus
 - Hephaestus then forges the golden net
 - Ares makes love to Aphrodite once more, mistakenly thinking that Hephaestus goes off to Lemnos, but then Hephaestus releases his golden net onto them, leaving them unable to move at all
 - Hephaestus then calls Poseidon, Hermes & Apollo; the gods burst into laughter together; shame embarrasses the two
- Resolution
 1. Freedom:
 - Poseidon demands Ares' freedom and convinces Hephaestus to let up the chains; both gods go separate ways
 2. Price:
 - Ares is required to pay the price of infidelity
 - Hephaestus threatens to return Aphrodite back to Zeus and demand a refund of the "bride price"

3. Harmonia:

- Harmonia is born as a result of the affair
- Athena and Hephaestus give her a robe “dripped in crimes” as a gift of ill-fated birth

[section 2]

- Characters:
 - Hephaestus: Hephaestus becomes the husband of Aphrodite, but becomes victim to her infidelity. He also creates the golden net that catches Ares and Aphrodite together.
 - Aphrodite: Aphrodite is the wife of Hephaestus, but she falls in love with Ares. She has an affair with Ares, but is caught by Hephaestus.
 - Ares: Ares is given a javelin by Eros and shows off his strength, which makes Aphrodite fall in love with him. They have an affair, but are caught by Hephaestus. Afterward, he is required to pay the price of infidelity.
 - Eros: Eros gives Ares the javelin that proves his strength, which causes Aphrodite to fall in love with Ares.
 - Helios: Helios is the one who first sees the infidelity occur, and tells Hephaestus.

[section 3]

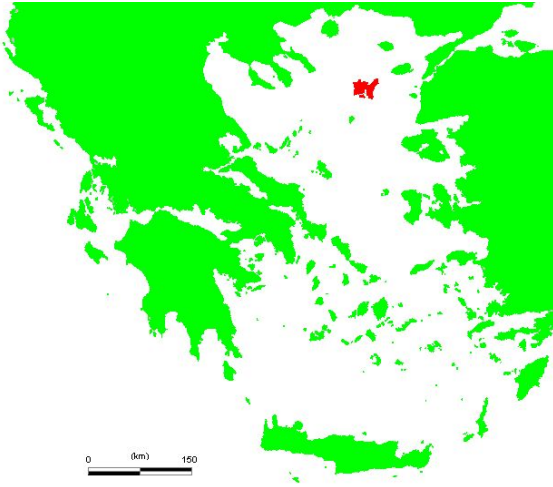
- Locations:
 1. Hephaestus’ Palace in Olympus: The adulterous affair of Ares and Aphrodite takes place here.
 2. Lemnos: As a messenger, Hephaestus often travels here. Ares mistakenly believes that Hephaestus travels here the day that the revenge of his affair takes place.

[section 4]

- Shown: Mount Olympus



- Shown in red: Lemnos



[section 5]

- Bibliography
1. “ARES LOVES.” *ARES MYTHS 3 LOVES - Greek Mythology*, www.theoi.com/Olympiowos/AresLoves.html#Aphrodite.
 2. “ARES - Greek God of War & Battlelust.” *Theoi Greek Mythology*, www.theoi.com/Olympios/Ares.html.
 3. The Anacreontea, Fragment 28 (trans. Campbell, Vol. Greek Lyric II) (C5th B.C.)
 4. Ovid, *Metamorphoses* 4. 170 ff (trans. Melville) (Roman epic C1st B.C. to C1st A.D.)

Ares vs. Poseidon

[section 1]

- Cause: Ares kills Poseidon’s son, Halirrhothius, before potentially violating Ares’ daughter, Alcippe
- Effect: Poseidon requests Ares’ release from Hephaestus’ golden chains so that he can accuse him at Areopagus, the court of Athens
- Resolution: Ares is acquitted and the Areopagus receives fame from the event

[section 2]

- Characters:
1. Poseidon: Poseidon takes place as the antagonist in the situation.
 2. Hephaestus: Without the involvement of Hephaestus, Poseidon would not be able to accuse Ares.
 3. Halirrhothius: Halirrhothius is Poseidon’s killed son. He is the subject of the situation.
 4. Alcippe: Alcippe is the daughter of Ares and was almost raped by Halirrhothius. Affiliations with Alcippe cause Halirrhothius to be accused.

5. Ares: Ares catches Halirrhothius trying to rape Alcippe and kills him.

[section 3]

- Locations:
 - Athens: Where Ares killed Halirrhothius, and where the trial took place.

[section 4]

- Shown: Athens



[section 5]

- Bibliography
 1. “ARES WRATH.” *ARES MYTHS 4 WRATH - Greek Mythology*, www.theoi.com/Olympios/AresWrath.html#Halirrhothios.
 2. Pseudo-Apollodorus, *Bibliotheca* 3. 180 (trans. Aldrich) (Greek mythographer C2nd A.D.)

Demeter vs. Hades

[section 1]

- Cause:
 - Zeus promises Persephone, Demeter’s daughter, to Hades without her knowing.
 - While she was picking flowers that were grown by Zeus to tempt her, the earth opens and Hades captures Persephone.
- Effect:
 - Demeter looks for her daughter for nine days, then meets Hekate who tells her that she heard Persephone’s cries. They both went to Helios, who tells them that this is Hades’ doing, with the help of Zeus.
 - Demeter avoids Olympus out of anger and produces famine on the earth.
 - She vows to never remove the famine unless she sees her daughter again

- Solution:
 - Zeus sends Hermes to get Persephone back, but Hades gives Persephone a pomegranate that she eats.
 - Zeus grants that Persephone should only spend part of the year in the Underworld, and the rest she can spend with her mother.
 - Seasons: This part of the year where she is in the Underworld is winter, and when she is with her mother, there is summer, fall, and spring.

[section 2]

- Characters:
 1. Zeus: This whole situation is because of Zeus' drive and desire for Hades to be with Persephone.
 2. Hades: Hades falls in love with Persephone and kidnaps her. This action compels Demeter to take part in a long journey of rage and grief to find her daughter.
 3. Hekate: Hekate sends Demeter to Helios.
 4. Helios: Helios clearly witnesses the abduction of Persephone.
 5. Demeter: The mother of Persephone who travels to find her daughter, and whose rage causes famine on the earth.

[section3]

- Locations:
 - Sicily/Eleusis: It is unclear where exactly Persephone was taken by Hades, but Sicily and Eleusis are the two most commonly believed locations.
 - The Underworld: This is where Hades kept Persephone for part of the year.

[section 4]

- Shown: Eleusis



- Shown in red: Sicily



[section 5]

- Bibliography:
 1. “DEMETER MYTHS 1.” *DEMETER MYTHS 1 GENERAL - Greek Mythology*, www.theoi.com/Olympios/DemeterMyths.html#Apollodorus.
 2. Hesiod, and Hugh G. Evelyn-White. *Hesiod, Homeric Hymns.: Epic Cycle. Homeric*. Harvard University Press, 2002.
 3. “Maps of Ancient Greece.” *Ancient Greece Classical Curriculum - Heritage History - Revision 2*, www.heritage-history.com/ssl/cds/ancient_greece/html/guide_maps.html.

Demeter vs. Poseidon

[section1]

- Cause:
 - Poseidon pursues Demeter, and she takes the form of a horse to try to get away from him.
 - Poseidon finds her, takes the form of a stallion, and rapes her.
- Effect:
 - Two offspring: the horse Arion and the goddess Despoina
 - Demeter retreats to a cave out of anger, and her absence from Olympus causes famine throughout the world.
- Solution:
 - Demeter returns from the cave, and washes her anger away in the River Ladon.

[section 2]

- Characters:
 1. Poseidon: Along her journey, Poseidon becomes Demeter's admirer.
 2. Areion: An immortal horse that myths say is Poseidon's child.

[section3]

- Locations:
 - Arcadia: This is where Demeter, as a horse, hides from Poseidon.
 - The River Ladon: The river near Arcadia in the Peloponnese where Demeter washes away her anger.

[Section 4]

- Shown in red: Arcadia



[section5]

- Bibliography
 1. "DEMETER LOVES." *DEMETER MYTHS 3 LOVES - Greek Mythology*, www.theoi.com/Olympios/DemeterFamily.html#Poseidon.
 2. "Maps of Ancient Greece." *Ancient Greece Classical Curriculum - Heritage History - Revision 2*, www.heritage-history.com/ssl/cds/ancient_greece/html/guide_maps.html.