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Greek I

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Study Guide

Hera vs. Poseidon:

Synopsis:

Hera and Poseidon contested over the dominion of the newly founded city of Argos. Inakhos, a river god and the king of Argos, is appointed by Hera and Poseidon as arbiter of their dispute. Inakhos decides in favor of Hera, giving her the patronage of Argos. In retaliation, Poseidon deprived him and two of his tributaries, Asterion and Cephissus, of water so the rivers became dry except for the rainy season. Despite Hera's efforts to ask Poseidon to bring back the sea, Poseidon refuses. Thus, the Argives make a sanctuary to Poseidon at the spot where the tide ebbed.

Characters:

Hera: Hera contested against Poseidon for the patronage of Argos and was victorious as she was chosen by Inackhos.

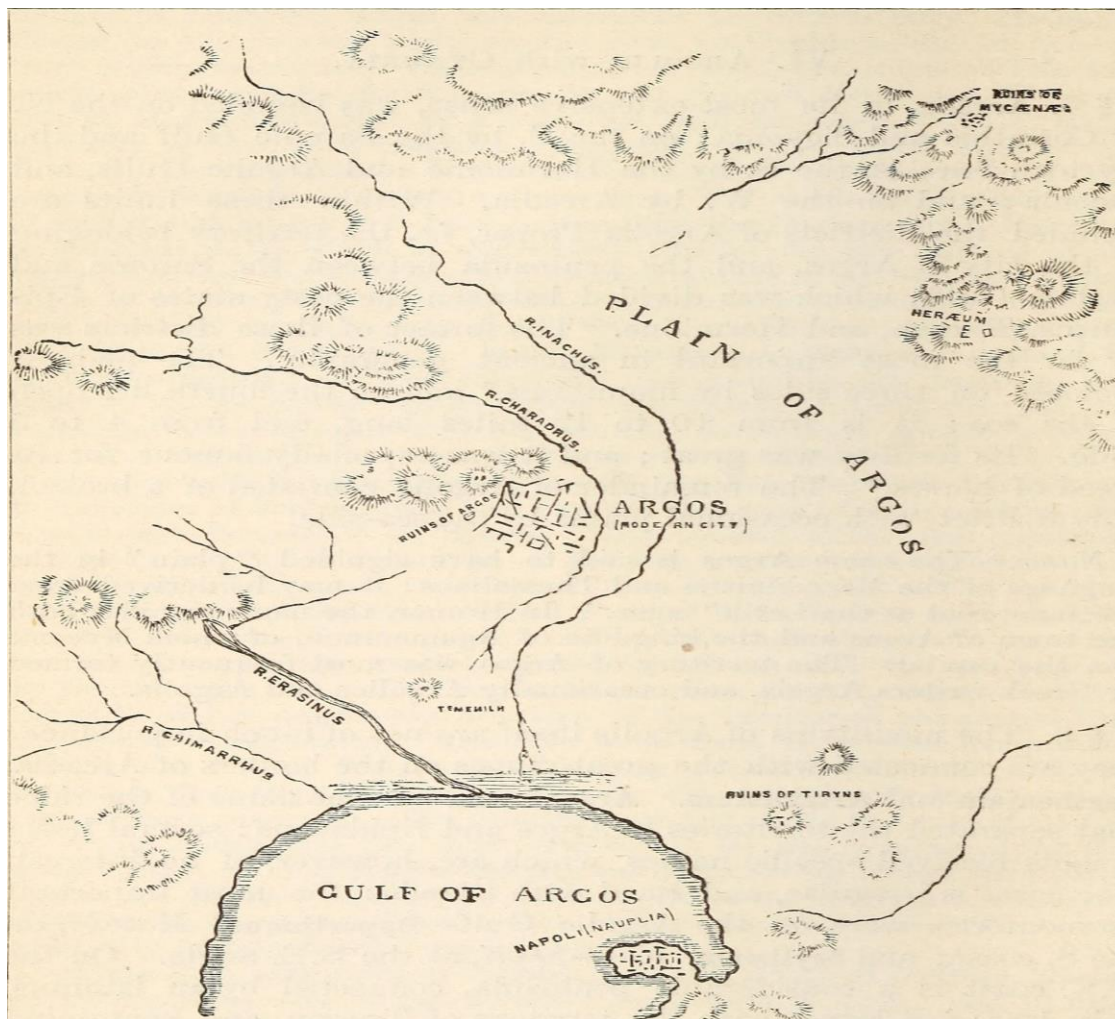
Poseidon: Poseidon contested against Hera for the patronage of Argos and was not chosen by Inakhos and thus lost. As a result, Poseidon dried the river Inakhos as well as smaller surrounding rivers.

Inakhos: Inakhos is the river god and king of Argos who was appointed as arbiter in the dispute between Poseidon and Hera. Having angered Poseidon by choosing Hera, his river was dried by Poseidon.

Locations:

Argos: The dispute between Posiedon and Hera took place in Argos and the surrounding area of the rivers.

Map:





Red=Argos

Athena vs. Poseidon:

Synopsis:

Athena and Poseidon fought over the patronage of a newly founded city, which would become Athens after the dispute. To begin, Cecrops founded a beautiful city which he named Cecropia after himself. The gods seeing how beautiful this city was, wanted to have dominion over it. The two most persistent rivals were Poseidon and Athena. Just before a war began, Zeus decided that in order to resolve the dispute, each would have to provide a gift to Athens to be judged by the king Cecrops on the Acropolis of the city. Poseidon presented his gift first, which consisted of him striking a rock with his trident from which a spring flowed. But, the water was salty like the ocean and undrinkable despite his promises of a constant supply of drinkable water. Athena went next. She planted an olive tree in the ground which was preferable as a source of food, oil, and fire wood. Cecrops choose Athena as the patron of the city, thus becoming Athens. In his

rage, Poseidon sent first a monstrous flood over Attica. Furthermore, Poseidon led his son Eumolpus against Athens, who was subsequently killed by Erechtheus, an archaic king of Athens. Poseidon then kills Erechtheus. To resolve this, Athena has a temple connected to Poseidon named the Erechtheum constructed to provide support to Erechtheus' wife, making her the priestess of this temple.

Characters:

Athena: Athena contested for the patronage of Athens with Poseidon and was victorious giving the gift of an olive tree and being chosen by the king Cecrops. She then had to resolve the consequences of Poseidon's anger.

Poseidon: Poseidon contested for the patronage of Athens with Athena and lost having given the inferior gift of a salt water spring and was not chosen by Cecrops. As a result, he sent a flood and his son Eumolpus who was killed by Erechtheus. Poseidon then killed Erechtheus, and Poseidon's temple in Athens is thus named Erechtheum.

Cecrops: Cecrops was the half-man half-serpent founder of Athens who was the arbiter in the dispute between Athena and Poseidon. In this dispute he choose the gift of Athena, an olive tree, over that of Poseidon, a salt water spring.

Erechtheus: Erechtheus is killed by Poseidon for killing Poseidon's son Eumolpus and has a temple thus named after him.

Locations:

Athens: Previously called Cecropia, the dispute between Poseidon and Athena took place in Athens, specifically on the acropolis.

Maps:



Hephaestus vs. Hera:

Synopsis:

Zeus gives birth to Athena from his head, without Hera. On some accounts, Hera is angered by this and in response, decides to give birth to Hephaestus without Zeus. However, Hephaestus is born unattractive and crippled, so Hera throws him off Mount Olympus in disgust. This initiates the conflict between Hephaestus and Hera. Hephaestus is shamed and re-crippled by the fall, but is rescued by Thetis, a water nymph, who takes care of him on the island of Lemnos. Thirsty for revenge, Hephaestus makes a golden throne for Hera that is disguised as a gift. Hera, captivated by its beauty, immediately accepts it. However, when she sits down on it, she is held fast by chains, invisible to everyone but Hephaestus. The other gods try to convince Hephaestus to release her by offering him the chance to return to Olympus, but he refuses, without regret. Hera is only set free when Dionysus gets Hephaestus drunk causing him to release Hera and resolve

the conflict.

Characters:

Hephaestus: Hephaestus is thrown off of Mount Olympus by Hera. Thirsty for revenge, he sends her a golden throne that is actually a trap.

Zeus: Zeus gives birth to Athena from his head, by himself, which angers Hera. In response, she gives birth to Hephaestus.

Hera: Hera, angered by the birth of Athena, gives birth to Hephaestus. She is so ashamed of his looks and deformities, that she throws him off Mount Olympus.

Thetis: Thetis rescues Hephaestus after he is thrown off of Mount Olympus and takes care of him.

Dionysus: Dionysus gets Hephaestus drunk, which allows Hera to be set free from his trap. This concludes this conflict between Hephaestus and Hera.

Locations:

Lemnos: Hephaestus falls on the island of Lemnos after being thrown from Olympus by Hera.

Thetis rescues him and takes care of him here.

Maps:



Hephaestus vs. Zeus:

Synopsis:

It is not clear whether Hephaestus was born lame and crippled by being thrown off Olympus by Hera, or if he was crippled after being thrown off Olympus by Zeus. On some accounts, Hephaestus interferes in a fight between Zeus and Hera, and defends Hera. Hera tries to kill Herakles after putting Zeus to sleep. However, Zeus catches her and hangs her with chains from Mount Olympus. Hephaestus tries to release Hera from these bonds; this angers Zeus and as a result, Zeus throws Hephaestus off Olympus. He falls and lands on the island of Lemnos, extremely wounded and crippled. The Sintians

find Hephaestus on the island and take care of him. Hephaestus is powerless against Zeus but recovers from his injuries.

Characters:

Hephaestus: Hephaestus tries to defend Hera in a conflict between her and Zeus. This angers Zeus and is thrown off Mount Olympus, leaving him crippled.

Zeus: Zeus throws Hephaestus off Mount Olympus for taking Hera's side in a quarrel.

Sintians: The Sintians rescue Hephaestus, who lands on Lemnos after being thrown off Olympus by Zeus.

Locations:

Lemnos: Hephaestus falls on the island of Lemnos after being thrown from Olympus by Zeus.

The Sintians find him here and take care of him.

Maps:





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