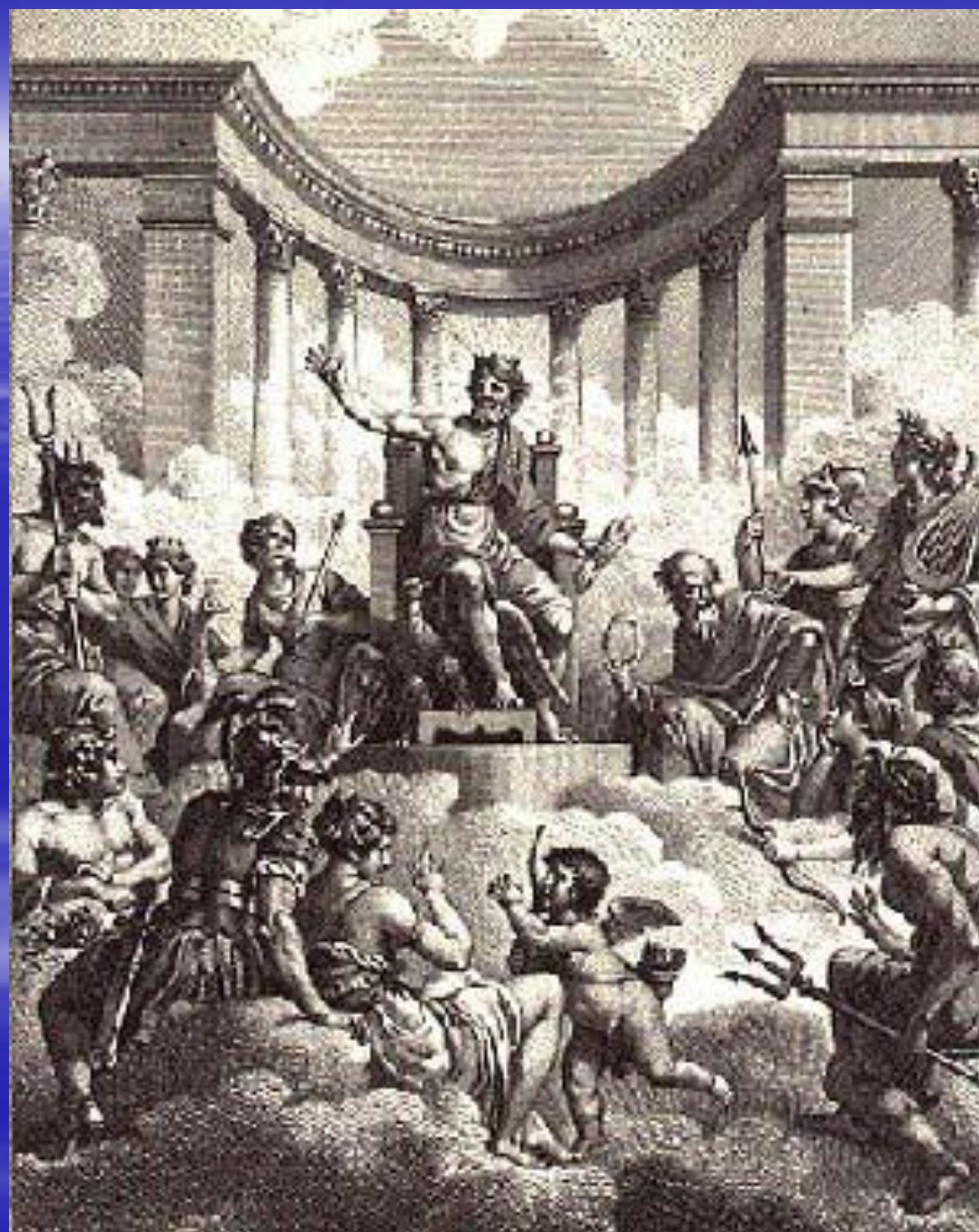
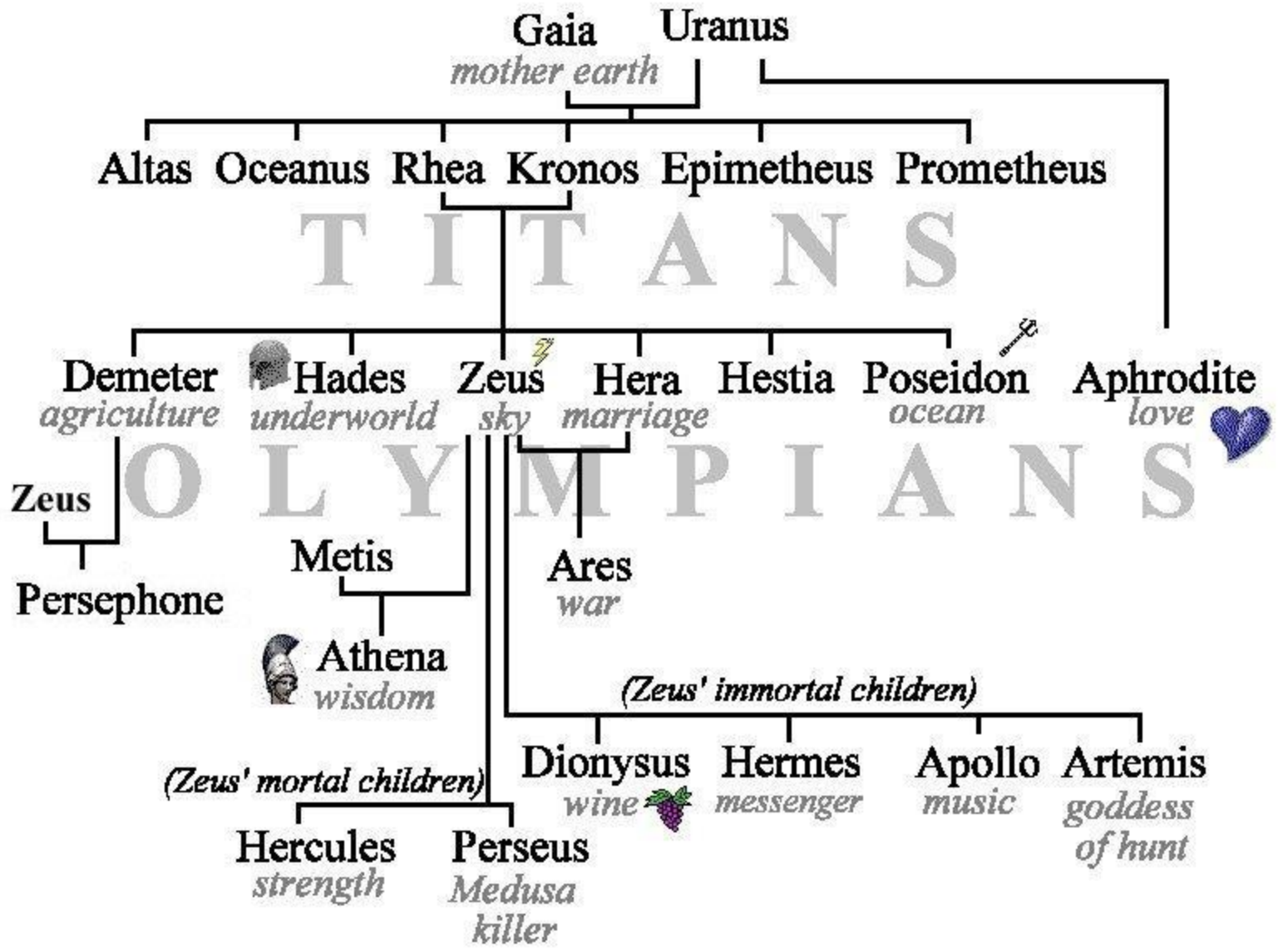


THE OLYMPIANS AND LESSER GODS/GODDESSES











ZEUS

ROMAN: JUPITER

-Ruler of the SKY

- Raised on the island of Crete

-Remember he escaped his father swallowing him

-Brought thunder, rain, and storms

-Married to Hera

-Falls in love with one woman

after another, but tries to hide his infidelities from Hera

-mentioned on almost every page

of the *Iliad*

-*Zeus was still subject to the decisions*

of the Fates



- Thunder is his weapon
- Shield was the Aegis
- Eagle was his favorite bird



How he relates to the *Odyssey*...

-tells Athena that he holds Odysseus in high esteem

-Zeus promises Helios that the men will be punished for eating his cattle

-He punishes them by drowning them in a storm.

HERA

ROMAN: JUNO

-Wife of Zeus

-Her name means lady

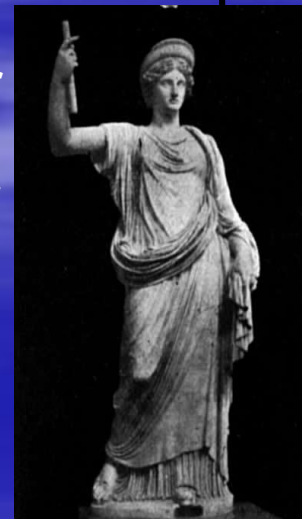
-Would persecute Zeus' mistresses and their children

-Sent the 2 serpents to kill Hercules (Zeus is his father)

-Zeus' sister --Tried to overthrow Zeus but he caught her and hung her upside down in the constellations; he finally let her down because he stand to listen to her whine and cry anymore; they called a truce



- The peacock is her symbol
- Defender of marriage and monogamy



Hera (undated photo)

- Zeus never remained faithful to her
- Ares is her son (with Zeus)
- Some myths say that she bore Hephaestus by herself

How she relates to the *Odyssey*...

Paris judged Aphrodite as the most beautiful goddess over Hera

Epithet: Zeus, husband of Hera



POSEIDON

ROMAN: NEPTUNE

-God of the Sea, Earthquakes, and horses

-Zeus' brother

-Had a splendid palace beneath the sea, but was often on Olympus

-Married to Amphitrite, a granddaughter of the Titan, Ocean

1. Gave the first horse to man

2. Commonly called "Earth-Shaker"

3. Always shown carrying his trident



-Trident is his symbol

-Dolphins are commonly associated with him

-Also associated with horses

Poseidon



How he relates to the *Odyssey*...

-Favored the Trojans

-When Hera tried to cause a windstorm to drown the Trojans, Poseidon calmed the sea so they could get to land



HESTIA

ROMAN: VESTA

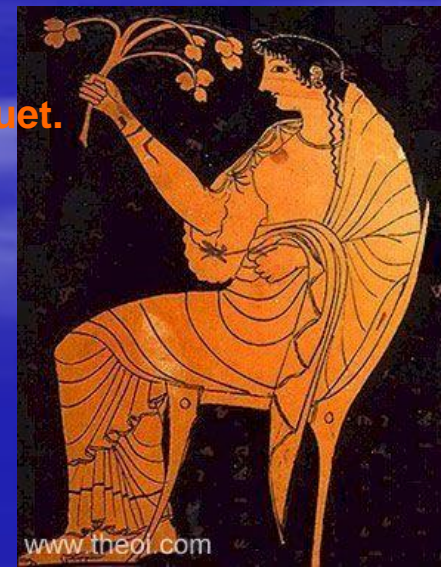
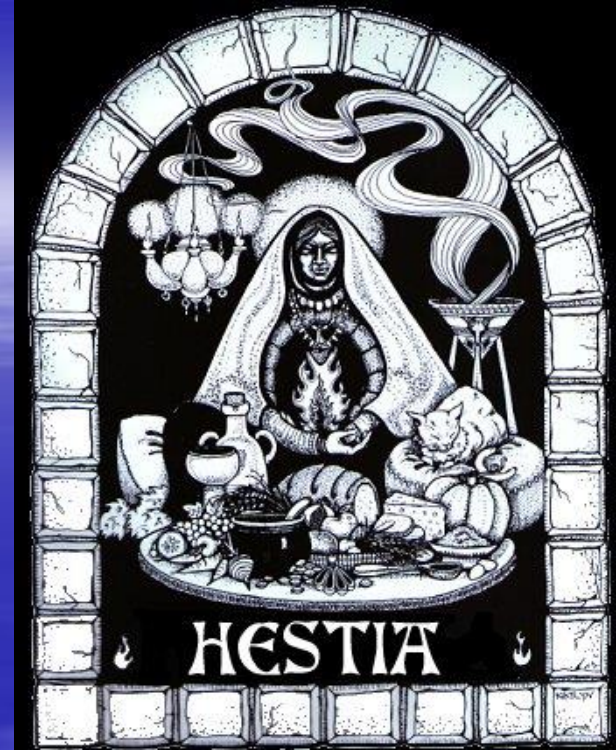
- Zeus' sister
- Goddess of the Hearth (symbol of the home)
- Every meal began and ended with an offering to her:

Hestia, in all dwellings of men and immortals

Yours is the highest honor, the sweet wine offered

First and last at the feast, poured out to you duly.

Never without you can gods or mortals hold banquet.



Each city had a public hearth sacred to Hestia, where the fire was never allowed to go out.

If a new city was founded, their hearth was started with coals from the mother-city.

Vestal virgins were priestesses that took vows of chastity and served her.



DEMETER

ROMAN

NAME: CERES



The Goddess of the Corn
The daughter of Cronus and Rhea

- She, along with Dionysus, were considered mankind's best friends
- harvest festivals were held in her honor
- she is a female because the women planted the seed and reaped the harvest while the men hunted and fought
- She was happy during harvest, but sad during winter
- her daughter, Persephone was taken to the underworld, causing Demeter to leave Olympus
- Demeter refused to let anything grow until she had Persephone back, Zeus allowed Persephone to spend 8 months of the year with Demeter

How she relates to the *Odyssey*:

Kalypso (Calypso) reminds Hermes that Demeter was allowed to take Iasion (one of Zeus' sons) as a lover until Zeus struck him down with a thunderbolt



ARES

ROMAN NAME: MARS

God of War

-Son of Zeus and Hera, both of whom hated him

-is mean and whiny when injured in the *Iliad*

-had an affair with Aphrodite

-his bird was the vulture

-Romans liked Mars better than the Greeks liked Ares

Also, The winner of the fight between Odysseus and Penelope's suitors will be the War God's choice

How he relates to the *Odyssey*:

-Fought with Trojans because Aphrodite sided with Paris

-The disguised Odysseus tells the swineherd, that Ares and Athena had once made him a good fighter





ATHENA

ROMAN: MINERVA

- Goddess of Wisdom and War**
- daughter of Zeus, without a mother
- she sprang from his head in full armor
- Zeus' favorite child



How she relates to the *Odyssey*:

- Sided with the Greeks
- serves as a guide and protector to Odysseus throughout the poem



- Athens was her special city
- she created the olive, it became her tree
- the owl is her bird



ARTEMIS

ROMAN: DIANA



-Twin sister of Apollo

-Known as the virgin goddess of the wild

-Liked to roam the mountains with a band of nymphs

- The hunter Actaeon once viewed her bathing and she turned him into a stag

- Torn apart by his own dogs



How she relates to the *Odyssey*...

-King Agamemnon (on the Greek side of the Trojan War)

-Killed a stag sacred to Artemis

-His fleet was stranded by contrary winds

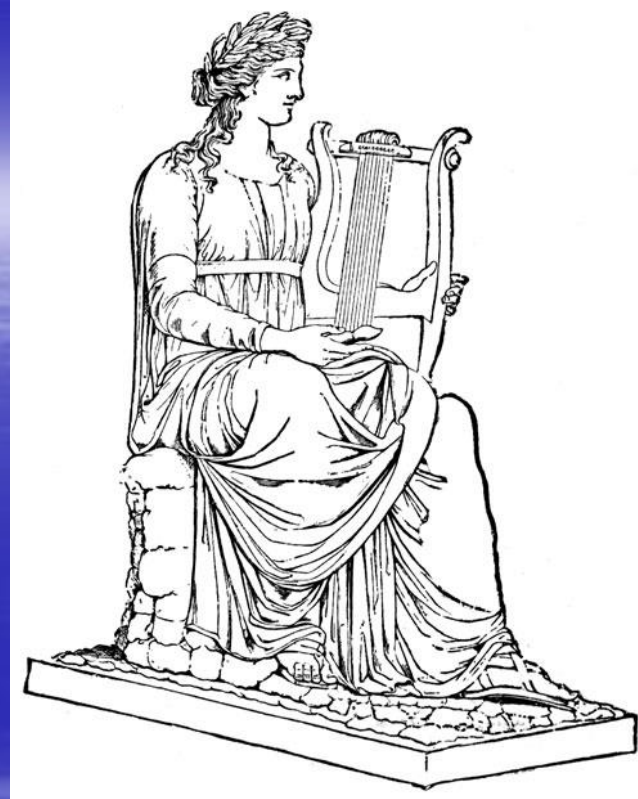
-Had to sacrifice his daughter, Iphigenia



APOLLO

God of Poetry and Music

- master musician (plays the golden lyre)
- lord of the silver bow (the Archer god)
- the Healer- first taught men the healing art
- God of Light and Truth
- He never lies
- the falcon is the messenger of Apollo
- he is a son of Zeus



How he relates to the Odyssey...

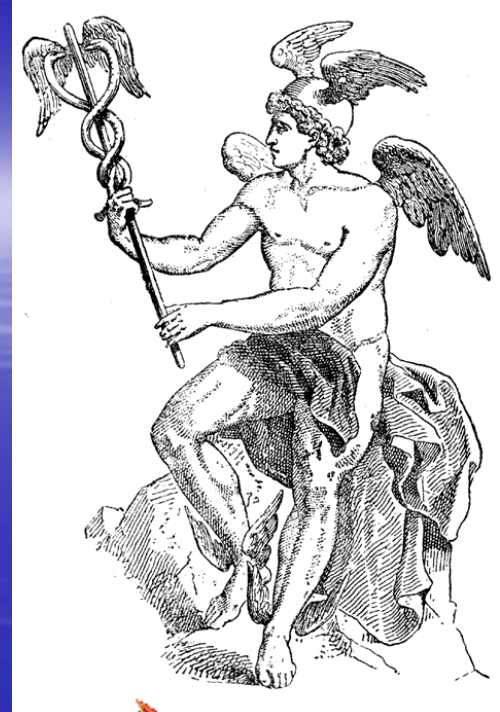
- Helped the Trojans in the war
- There are many references to Apollo while Penelope's suitors are in Ithaca.



HERMES

ROMAN: MERCURY

- Messenger god
- Son of Zeus and Maia
- Escorts the dead to Hades
- One of the only gods to cross all of the worlds



How he relates to the Odyssey...

-During the Trojan War, he was sent to steal something that was unobtainable

-in love with Aphrodite





APHRODITE ROMAN: VENUS

-Goddess of love, beauty, and fertility

-*Origin of name:*

-*Foam (refers to the story of Cronos and Ouranos)*

***Married to Hephaestus**

- was not a faithful wife

- bore children w/many men

- Love Affair w/Ares

1. Hephaestus found out and created a mesh of gold and caught the lovers

2. Hephaestus brings the other gods to see and they laugh at him



How she relates to the Odyssey...

- Caused the Trojan war
- Promised Paris the most beautiful woman in the world (Helen)
- Paris chose her as the most beautiful goddess





HEPHAESTUS

ROMAN: VULCAN

“The Celestial Artist”

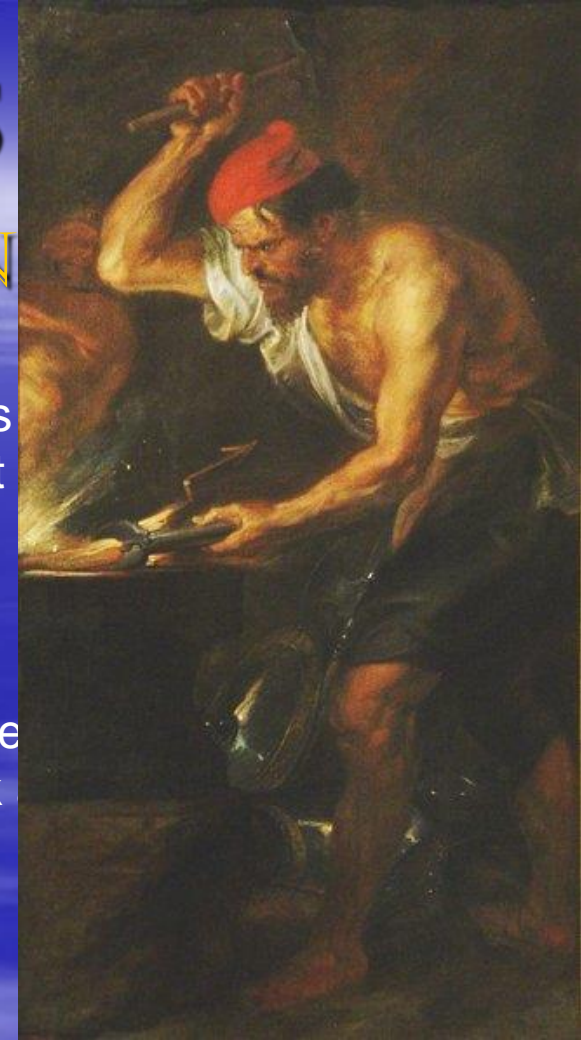
-One myth: born lame and Hera was so displeased that she flung him out of heaven

-Second myth: Zeus and Hera were having a fight and Hephaestus took her side. Zeus kicked him out and he became lame from that fall that took full day.

-Hera had Hephaestus in spite of Zeus and he was born lame.

-Has a mortal job: blacksmith, makes him more common than the other gods

-Married to Aphrodite



-made a cage/trap to catch Aphrodite with Ares

-laughed at by other gods

How he relates to the *Odyssey*...

Metal items mentioned throughout the *Odyssey* are credited to Hephaestus

EROS (CUPID)

- God of love
- Son of Venus
- Constant Companion
- Armed with bow and arrow → shot darts of desire

Cupid married Psyche

Aphrodite was jealous of Psyche because she was so beautiful.



LESSER GODS



The 9 Muses

- The inspiration of poetry, music and dance
- They were said to dance and sing at parties held by the gods and heroes.



The Fates

- Three goddesses sometimes called the daughters of night.
- Clotho- the spinner of life
- Lachesis- apportioner (measures time for ea. mortal)
- Atropos- the inevitable (cuts the thread)



DIONYSUS

ROMAN NAME:
BACCHUS

God of Wine

- Born in Thebes
- last God to enter Olympus
- only god whose parents were not both divine (his mother was mortal)
- his mother was near birth when she died, Zeus hid the child (Dionysus) from Hera
- he loved the princess of Crete, Ariadne, when she died, he took a crown he had given her and placed it among the stars
- he traveled to the underworld and rescued his mother and took her to Olympus, where she lived with the immortals because she was the mother of a god
- he could be kind or cruel and mean
- great poems were written to him and the first plays were performed at a festival in his honor



HADES

ROMAN: PLUTO

God of the Underworld

His queen was Persephone

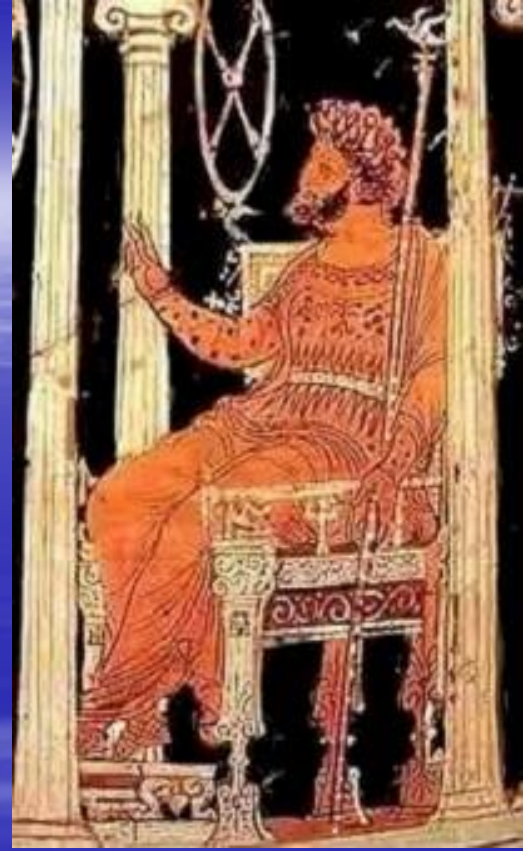
-Hades (also a name for the underworld) is a vague and shadowy place

-Charon- ferries the souls of the dead to Hades, must have money on their lips when they were buried

-Cerberus- 3 headed dragon tailed dog who permits spirits to enter, but never leave

-Zeus' brother and child of Cronos and Rhea

-the 3 brothers divided the earth and chose lots, Hades got the Underworld



How he relates to the *Odyssey*...

-Odysseus is one of the few to enter Hades and leave it (when he goes to the Land of the Dead)

-sees his mother, Anticlea there and Elpenor