

Gods in Everyman, Poseidon

Poseidon the God

- One of the chief Olympian deities
- God of the Sea and god of horses
- God of storms and earthquakes
- Most primitive of the gods
- Portrayed as a powerful man with a beard holding a trident

Personality

- Primitive
- Emotional
- Vengeful
- Power-hungry
- Destructive

Symbolism

- Trident
- Horse
- Bull
- Dolphin

Genealogy

- Grandparents: Ouranos and Gaia
- Parents: Kronos (Cronus) and Rhea
- Brothers: Hades and Zeus
- Sisters: Hestia, Hera, and Demeter

Women and Children

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God of the Sea

- Image

Mythology: The Odyssey

- Image

Mythology: Competition for Athens and Argos

- Image

Water

- Linked symbolically with emotion
- Its depths infinite mystery, possibilities, dangers
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Force of Nature & Emotionality

- God of storms and earthquakes
- Storms
- Earthquakes
- Floods
- Tidal waves

Poseidon in everyman

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Poseidon in the Father

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Poseidon the Archetype

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Archetype of the King

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Archetype of the Wild Man

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Notes:

Poseidon the God

In Greek mythology, Poseidon was one of the chief Olympian gods. He is primarily known as the God of the sea and of water in general but he was also known as the god of horses, earthquakes, and storms. He is said to be the most primitive of the gods and is portrayed as a powerful bearded man holding a trident in his right hand. He is also often pictured riding in his chariot, pulled by hippocampuses.

Personality

Poseidon was considered the most primitive of the gods because his emotions often drowned out rationality. Attributed with violence, vindictiveness, and bad temperament, he was a dangerous and vengeful deity to say the least. He reacted intensely and destructively when provoked.

Symbolism

Poseidon's associated symbols signified his masculinity, sexuality, and fertility. His trident represented his connection as consort of the Great Goddess. The horse personifies instinctive drives of our own raw nature [...]

Genealogy

Poseidon was one of the six children birthed from the connection of the Titans, Cronus and Rhea. Thus, his grandparents were the primordial deities Uranus (Ouranos), god of the sky and Gaia, goddess of the Earth. Poseidon had three sisters, Hestia, Demeter, and Hera and two brothers, Hades and Zeus. According to Hesiod, Hestia was the oldest, followed by Demeter, Hera, Hades, then came Poseidon and Zeus. The story behind birth of Poseidon is contained in the myth known as Rhea's deception. In this myth, Cronus, cognizant that his children are destined to depose him, swallowed his children as they exited the womb. In most accounts of this myth, Zeus is the only one not consumed because Rhea hid his birth and deceived Cronus by giving him a stone to swallow instead of Zeus. Zeus eventually rescues his siblings by causing his father to regurgitate his siblings. In some variations Poseidon was also saved by Rhea who tricked Cronus into thinking that she gave birth to a colt, which he swallowed.

Women and Children

[...]

God of the Sea

After Zeus rescued his siblings, he persuaded them into a rebellion against the tyranny of their father. This rebellion is known as the Titanomachy, the ten year war between the Titans and the Olympian gods. Ultimately the Olympians and their allies were successful and overthrew Cronus and the old generation of gods who fought alongside him. The universe then was

divided among the three Olympian brothers. Poseidon was allotted the sea and thus became god of the sea.

Mythology: The Odyssey

[Correlate with Poseidon's vindictiveness]

Mythology: Competition for Athens and Argos

[Correlate with Poseidon's personality]

Water & Emotion

Water and emotion are linked symbolically. Water, specifically ocean and sea waters, express very powerful moods and contain many mysteries, many possibilities and many dangers. These waters, therefore, reflect the psychological domain that Poseidon personifies.

Force of Nature & Emotionality

Poseidon was also god of storms and earthquakes and was dubbed earth-shaker and flood-bringer. The occurrence of destructive tidal waves, floods, storms, and earthquakes are all manifestations of Poseidon. These forces of nature are all representations of Poseidon's emotionality. Destructive tidal waves and earthquakes share the same destructive qualities as rage, storms correlate to grief and floods are like when emotions drown out rationality. In dreams, tidal wave, floods and earthquakes are interpreted as the emergence of Poseidon.

Poseidon in everyman

When a man feels intense emotion such as rage, grief, or vengeance, he is having firsthand experience of Poseidon.

Poseidon in the father

Poseidon the Archetype

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Archetype of the King

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Archetype of the Wild Man

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In the father

Freighening

Raging emotions flood the household