

Classical Mythology

LLCU/CMLT 316.010/080



Class 6

The Greek Pantheon:
Zeus and Hera, cont.

Ares, Hephaestus
(and some of the lesser gods)

Poseidon (?)

Exam 1: Thursday, March 1st

Format: Section 1 (of 2)

- 25 multiple choice questions (1 mark x 25)

E.g.

According to the generally accepted account, where was young Zeus raised?

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|------------|-----------|
| a) Crete | c) Egypt |
| b) Olympia | d) Lemnos |

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Exam 1: Thursday, March 1st

Format: Section 2 (of 2)

- 15 Short Answer (2 marks per question = 30 marks)
- Populated from **Red Words** in the PowerPoint and main ideas connected to them.

E.g. Who was Gaia's mate and what domain (sphere of power) did he oversee?

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Who was Gaia's mate and what domain (sphere of power) did he oversee?

“Gaia's mate was **Uranos**, and he oversaw the **heavens/sky**.”

Exam 1: Thursday, March 1st

- You will have all of class time to write this exam, although most do not need that much
- Covers material up until the end of this class (today's lecture)

Study Suggestions:

- Concentrate on overlap between the textbook and course content (only a few questions will be from the textbook alone; it is another resource for explanations)
- Stories in *blue headings* (textbook) *and* bolded words are most important; these are your guides
- Words in Red on the PowerPoint indicate especially important names/terms (spend some time on these!)
- Useful student resources for the textbook can be found on the syllabus. Do take a look at these; they'll help!

The Age of Zeus



Zeus and infidelity: The Story of Io



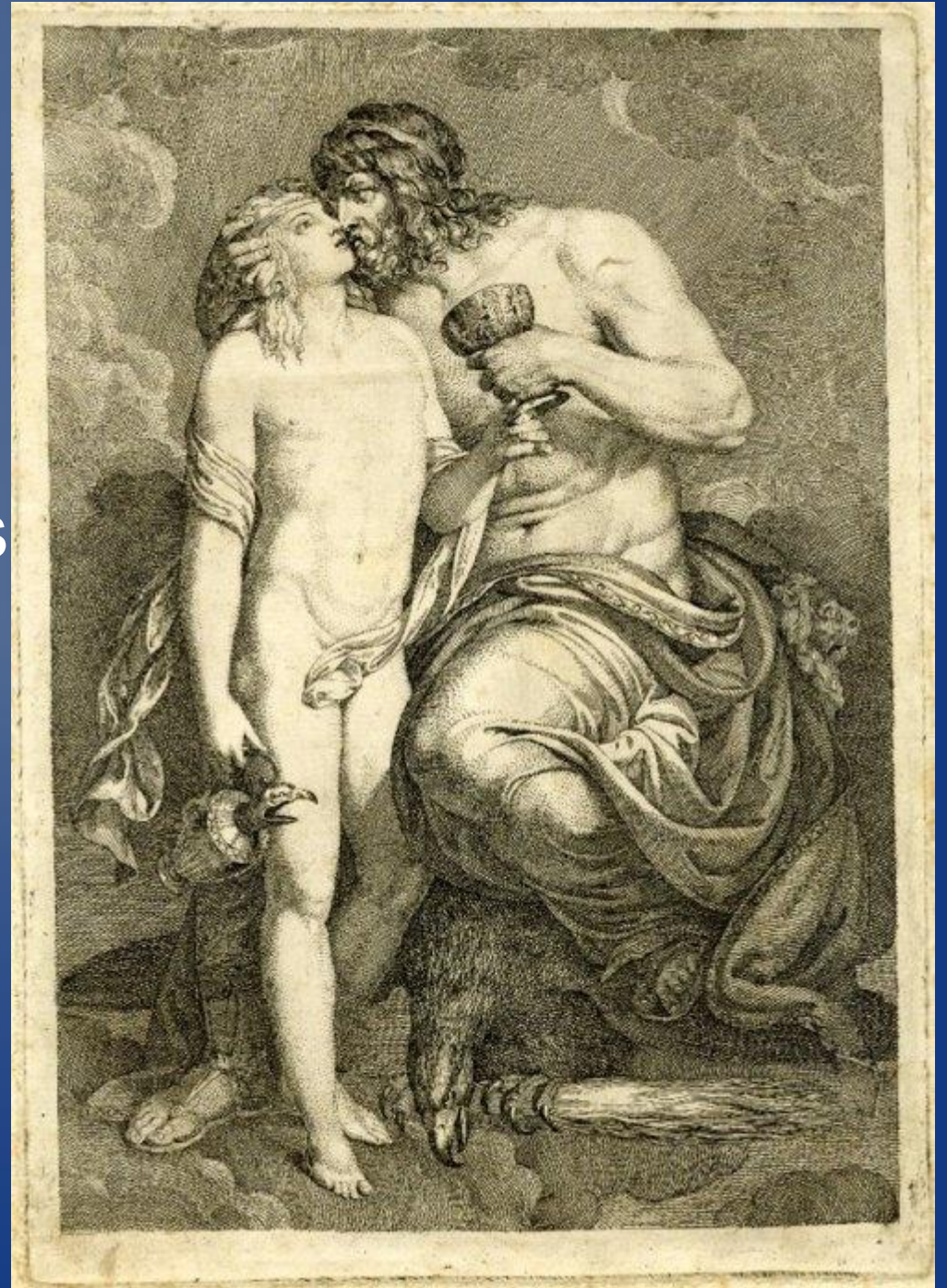
Zeus and infidelity

Zeus and **Ganymede**

Ganymede a young man
(peri-pubescent?) from
Troy (son of Troios, Troy's
first king)

Zeus kidnaps Ganymede
(an eagle is sent; visits
him in a whirlwind)

Ganymede becomes
his “cup-bearer”



Hera and challenges to fidelity

Porphyryon (one of the giants) and Hera

- Tried to rape Hera
- In some versions, because of Zeus' encouragement (for some unknown reason)
- Struck down by Zeus' thunderbolt in his attempt



Hera and challenges to fidelity

Ixion and Hera

- Mortal that tried to have intercourse with Hera
- Hera replaced herself with a cloud, leading Ixion to think he was successful
- Ixion punished to eternal torture

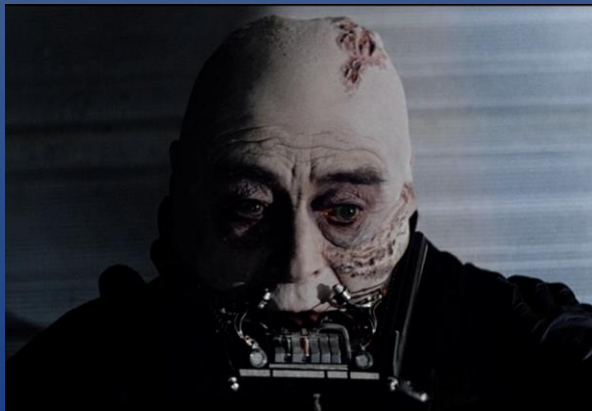
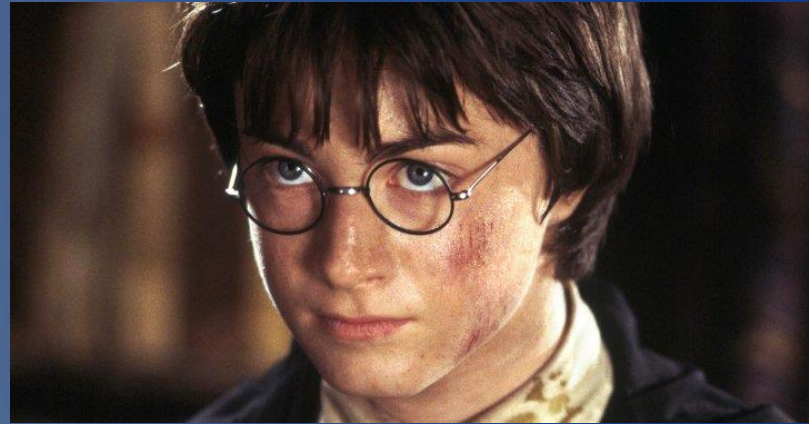


Intermission: Key Theme in Myths

- “Unnatural” or abnormal behaviour and appearances (one often suggests the other)
- Characters often over or under-value social norms and values (e.g. kinship/family, life)
- Leads to problems for character
- Myths try to resolve problem (punishment of offenders, positive solution is found)

Intermission: Key Theme in Myths

The Bad and the Good



Hephaestus (Vulcan)



Hephaestus (Son of Zeus and Hera?)

- The 'Lame' god
- Often depicted with blacksmith's hammer and/or tongs
- Inventor/craftsman god
- Builder of bronze palace on Olympus
- Zeus' lighting
- Shield of Achilles
- 'Robot' (bronze) women, dogs, giant
- Pandora

Hephaestus (Vulcan): Backwards-bent feet (some depictions)



Hephaestus (Son of Zeus and Hera?)

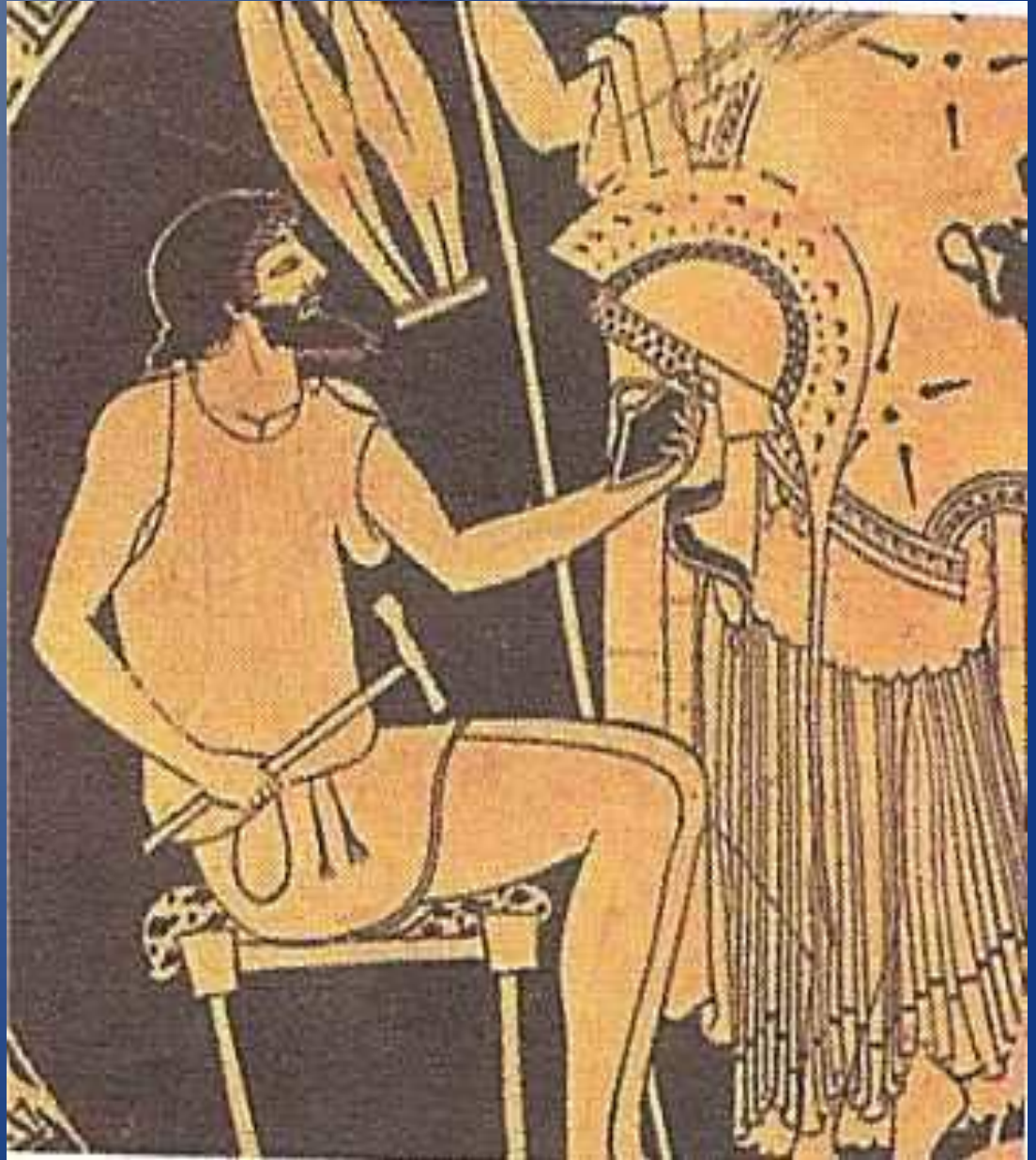
Story One:

Hera angry that Zeus produced Athena “all by himself”

Tried to create Hephaestus in a similar way

He came out “imperfect”

Hera casts him down to Earth



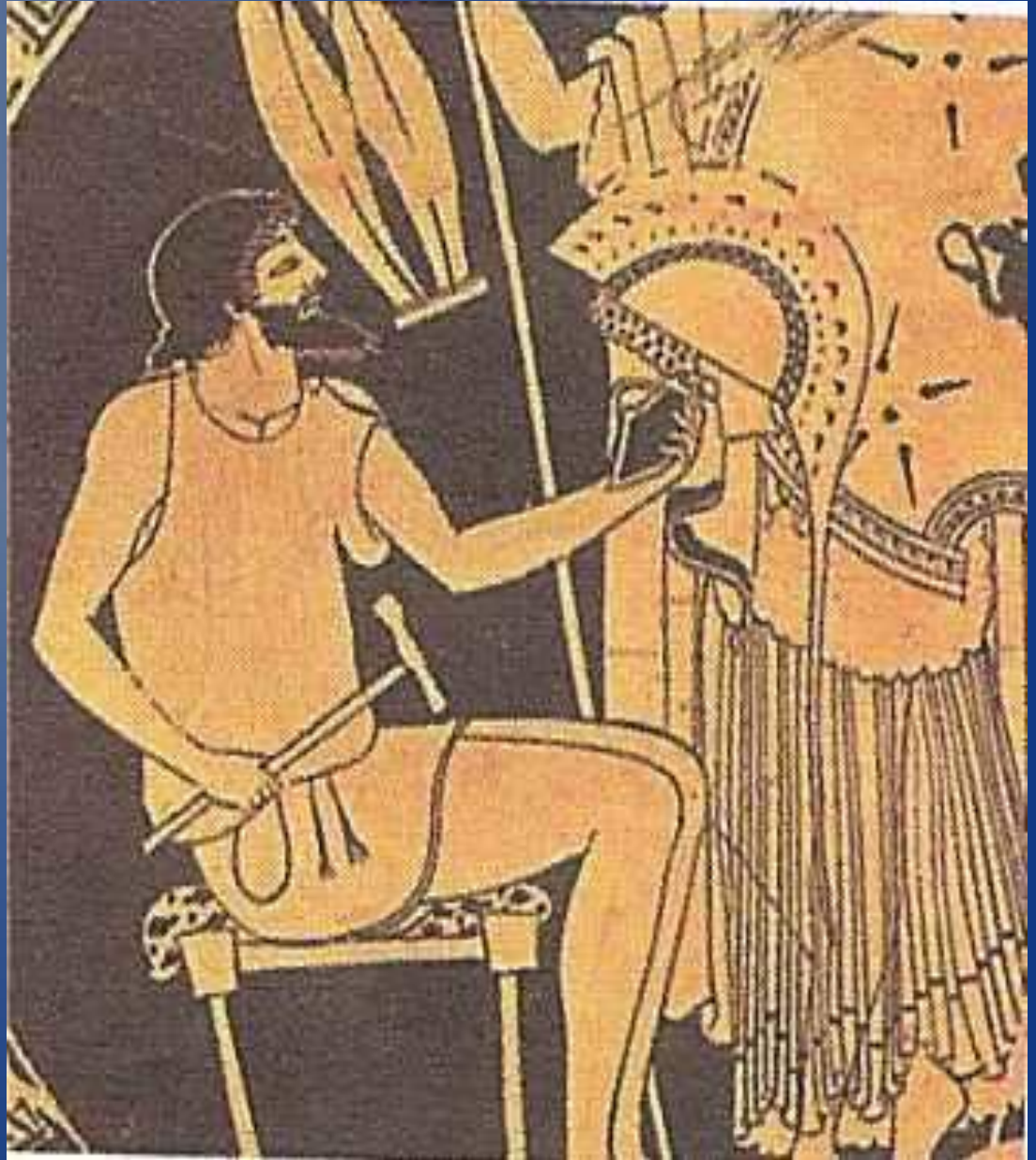
Hephaestus (Son of Zeus and Hera?)

Story Two:

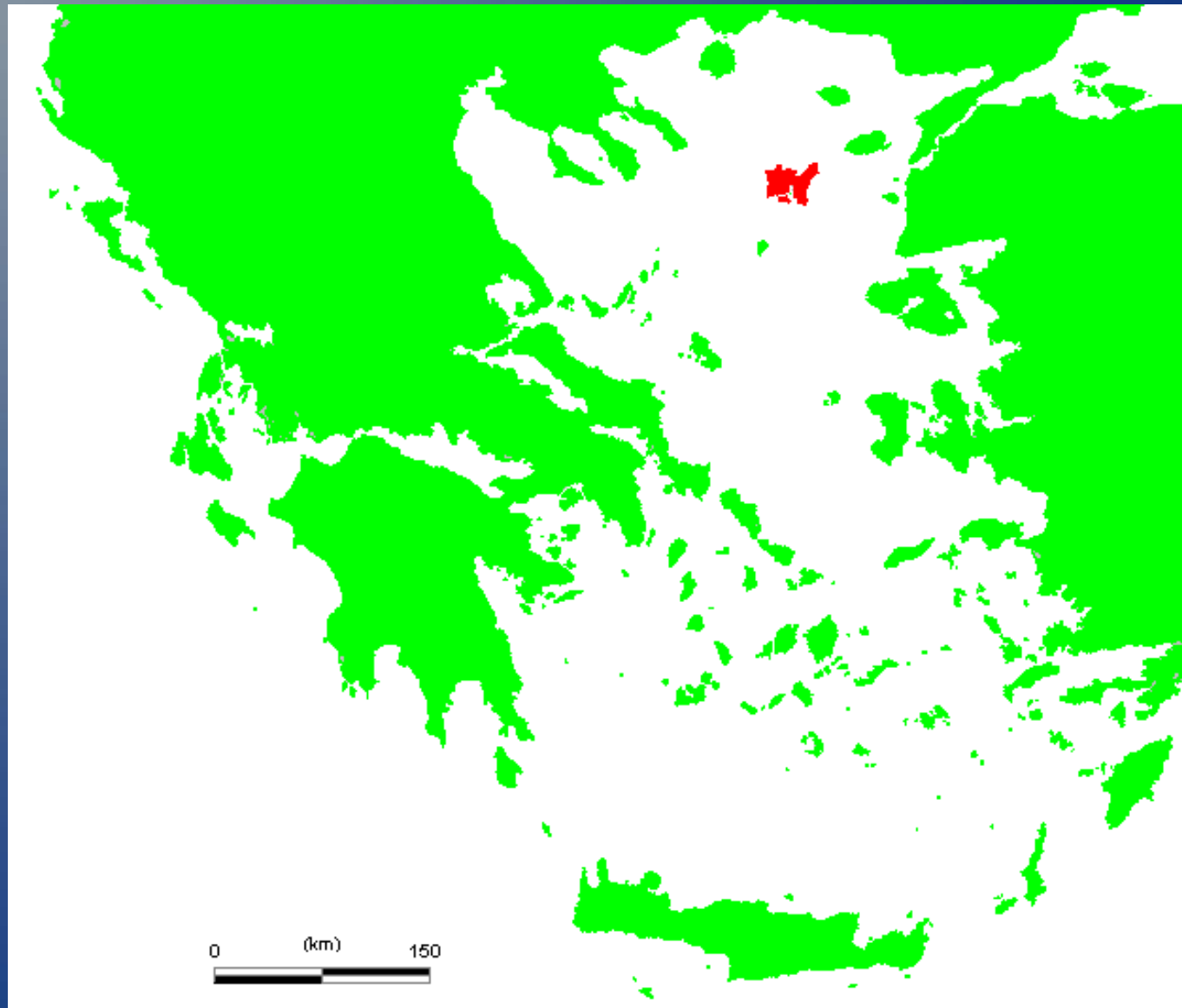
Zeus and Hera
both produced
Hephaestus

Hephaestus
intervened
between Zeus and
Hera during a fight

Tossed by Zeus
down to Earth



Hephaestus: Lemnos



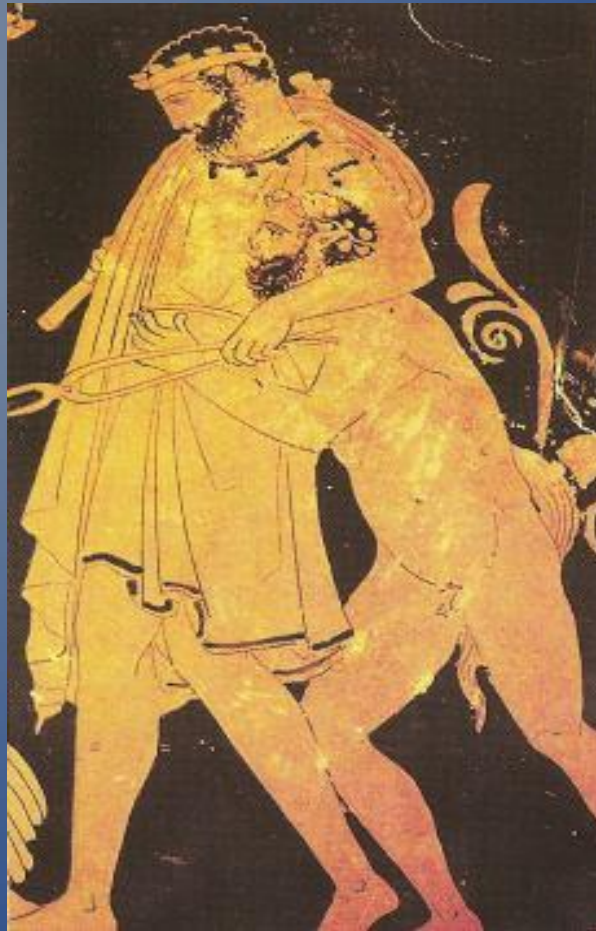
Hephaestus: Lemnos



“Return of Hephaestus”

gods plead with
Hephaestus to
return to
Olympus to free
Hera (story one)

He refuses, so
Dionysus is sent
to “persuade
him”



Ares (Mars)



Ares

- God of war (but not always good at it)
- Giants Otus and Ephialtes once trapped him in a bronze jar for 13 months
- “Many of us who have our homes on Olympus endure things from men, when ourselves we inflict hard pain on each other. Ares had to endure it when strong Ephialtes and Otos, sons of Aloeus, chained him in bonds that were too strong for him.”

Iliad Book 5

Ares

- Wounded by the mortal Diomedes during the Trojan war
- Outmatched by Athena at the same battle

Ares and Aphrodite



The Greeks as binary thinkers:

Zeus (sky) and Hera (earth)

Ares (war) and Aphrodite (love)

Hephaestus and Aphrodite