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Mrs. Meo

Journal 10

Chapter 11 interested me greatly, as it was the first theological concept of the afterlife of those of a greek religion that I had ever read. Firstly it was interesting how a physical place on earth was where odysseus’ connected with the dead rather than through prayer, or meditation. It was also interesting how this place was a river, and how there are many rivers in the underworld. Thirdly it is interesting how Elephenor has no personal motive (in terms of the underworld) to have a propper burial. He merely asks Odysseus out of fear that Odysseus might have a curse placed upon him, which demonstrates loyalty to leader. His other motive is that he will be remembered which is still a motive today. However I think being remembered is of lesser value today because as Woody Allen once said “I don't want to live on in the hearts of my countrymen; I want to live on in my apartment.” Later in the chapter, there is a bit of foreshadowing when the prophet warns Odysseus not to touch the flocks of the sun or he will be punished. With Odysseus being the man of sorrow, a reader can make an assumption that he, or his men will touch the sun flock, which will result, as every other mistake has in a prolonged journey.