

TITLE	THE EPIC OF GILGAMESH	THE BOOK OF GENESIS	WORKS AND DAYS	THE ODDYSEY	THE PELOPONNESIAN WAR	SELECTIONS	SELECTIONS	HELEN; ON NATURE	THE APOLOGY	POLITICS	B/
AUTHORS	UNKNOWN	UNKNOWN	HESIOD	HOMER	THUCYDIDES	PARMENIDES	HERACLITUS	GORGIAS	PLATO	ARISTOTLE	EL
THEMES	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CREATION	-	✓	✓	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
DEATH & IMMORTALITY	✓	✓	-	-	-	-	-	-	✓	-	-
IDENTITY	✓	-	-	✓	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
NATION	-	-	-	-	✓	-	-	-	-	-	-
PRIDE	✓	-	-	✓	-	-	-	-	✓	-	✓
PIETY	-	-	✓	✓	-	-	-	-	-	✓	✓
RECREATION	-	-	✓	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	✓
DRUNKENNESS	-	-	✓	✓	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
FRIENDSHIP	✓	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
HOSPITALITY	-	-	-	✓	✓	-	-	-	-	-	-
DECEIT & CUNNINGNESS	-	✓	-	✓	-	-	-	-	✓	-	✓
SEX	✓	✓	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
MAN vs. NATURE	✓	✓	✓	✓	-	-	-	-	✓	-	✓
WISDOM & KNOWLEDGE	-	✓	-	-	✓	✓	✓	-	✓	-	-
WOMEN & FEMININITY	✓	✓	✓	✓	-	-	✓	-	-	-	✓

# LIST OF TEXTS

Title	Author	Characters	Keywords
The Epic of Gilgamesh	Unknown	Gilgamesh, Enkidu, Shamhat, Ishtar	Journey, Immortality, Civilization, Mythical

The Book of Genesis	Unknown	Adam, Eve, God, Lord God, Snake	Origins, Mythical, Non-mythical
Works and Days	Hesiod	~	Work, Origins, Mythical
The Oddysey	Homer	Oddyseus, Poseidon, Zeus, Kalypso, Polyphemus	Mythical, Journey, Cunningness
History of the Peloponnesian War	Thucydides	Pericles	History, Non-mythical, Nation, Oration
Selections	Parmenides	What-Is, What-Is-Not ?	Origins
Selections	Heraclitus	Fire	Origins
Praise of Helen; On Nature or On What Is Not	Gorgias	~	~
The Apology	Plato	Socrates, Sophists	Trial, Justice, Oration, Non-mythical, Nation, Philosophy
Politics	Aristotle	~	Philosophy, Non-mythical, Justice, Slavery, Hierarchy
The Bacchae	Euripides	Dionysus, Pentheus, Cadmus, Agaue, Zeus	Mythical, Vengeance, Nature, Recreation, Madness

## DESCRIPTIONS

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### THE EPIC OF GILGAMESH - UNKNOWN

**DEATH & IMMORTALITY** | In Gilgamesh, he first tries to be immortal indirectly, such as being remembered as a hero after he dies. But since he is two thirds god, after his friend Enkidu dies, his aim of immortality becomes literal.

**IDENTITY** | In Gilgamesh, before Enkidu's death identity is the way to be immortal for Gilgamesh.

**PRIDE** | In Gilgamesh, he is pride. So pride that he thinks he can have sex with everybody's wives before wedding. Even after his friend's death, he thinks about immortality.

**FRIENDSHIP** | In Gilgamesh, he and Enkidu start off as enemies, become friends later on. Enkidu fulfills what Gilgamesh is missing.

**SEX** | In Gilgamesh, sex plays two big roles. It is the reason of Enkidu's both civilization and death. He becomes civilized after having sex with Shamhat, and he is killed because of after events of Gilgamesh's rejection of Ishtar's sex offer.

**MEN VS. NATURE** | In Gilgamesh, this duality is used all around. Enkidu's transformation from wild to civilized, Uruk has walls (prestigious for Gilgamesh) that separate it from the nature. Humbaba is composed of animal parts. The plant that would give Gilgamesh immortality was taken by a snake. Etc.

**WOMEN & FEMININITY** | All the woman characters in Gilgamesh are either prostitute or their main actions are about sex.

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## **THE BOOK OF GENESIS - UNKNOWN**

**CREATION** | In Genesis, the world is created twice. One is by an omnipotent God, other is more humane God such as in the myths.

**DEATH & IMMORTALITY** | In Genesis, humanity is originally immortal. After Adam eats the fruit of knowledge and wisdom, God makes them mortal so they won't be equal to God.

**DECEIT & CUNNINGNESS** | In Genesis, a snake deceits the woman to eat the forbidden fruit.

**SEX** | After eating the forbidden fruit, both Adam and Eve realize sex and feel ashamed of being naked.

**MAN VS. NATURE** | In Genesis, it is a snake (serpent) who first plants the idea of doing the forbidden to Eve.

**WISDOM & KNOWLEDGE** | In Genesis, the tree of which Adam and Eve ate the fruit is called Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil. Upon eating the fruit God condemns them to mortality because they took God's knowledge.

**WOMEN & FEMININITY** | In the first creation women are created with men at the same time; in the second creation though, Eve is created from the rib of Adam. Upon the condemnation, it is women who has to bear kids (painful) and be ruled by men. | In Works and Days, women is created just to bring punishment onto Prometheus. It is also stated to marry a woman and make her a slave.

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## **WORKS AND DAYS - HESIOD**

**CREATION** | In Works and Days, there are 4 races of men which are: golden (ideal), silver (lacking piety), bronze (violent), demi-gods (heroes), iron (who has to work) men. Because Prometheus steals the fire from Zeus, Zeus creates Pandora and sends her to Epimetheus (brother of Prometheus), and he accepts the gift (forgetting his brother told him not to do so). Through Pandora's box, pains and evils are scattered among man.

**PIETY** | In Hesiod, it is stressed that mortals should not forget praying since silver men were extinct for this reason only.

**RECREATION** | In Hesiod's work, man are only allowed to have some relax time after doing every work he can do.

**DRUNKENNESS** | In Works and Days, after all the work, it is okay to drink wine at some place nice. Don't forget to give some to the Gods though!

**MAN VS. NATURE** | In Works and Days, nature works against the men. Men has to be hard-working enough to survive through nature.

**WOMEN & FEMININITY** | In Works and Days, at some point it is advised to marry a women and enslave her.

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## **THE ODDYSEY - HOMER**

**IDENTITY** | In Oddysey, identity is regarded as important for it defines how hospitable hosts will be to the guests. (CV) | In the Oration, Pericles talks about a list of exclusive things that make Athens better than any other nation. It is identity of Athens. | - | - | Socrates chooses death to keep his integrity intact.

**PRIDE** | In Oddysey, Odysseus is full of pride and he has reasons to be. But his pride creates problems.

**PIETY** | In Oddysey, piety is more complicated. Piety to one God may create distress in people whose piety's is to another God (especially if they're rivals)

**DRUNKENNESS** | In Oddysey, after pillaging the Kikonians, the crew visits the Lotus-Eaters and offered to have some (hospitaliy). After eating lotus, some of the crew even forget who they were and taken back to ship to leave the land of Lotus-Eaters.

**HOSPITALITY** | In Oddysey, hospitality is everywhere. People are being killed for the lack of it. Odysseus himself tries to act on the grounds of hospitality.

**DECEIT & CUNNINGNESS** | In Oddysey, Odysseus is a cunning man. He is not like the other Greek heroes, he has his own ways of taking what he wants.

**MAN VS. NATURE** | In Oddysey, Cyclops and foreigners (people who don't speak Greek) are not regarded as civilized. Cyclops are regarded as so because they don't have agriculture.

**WOMEN & FEMININITY** | In Oddysey, there are double-standarts regarding women. Tone of the text is less discriminating though because women in The Oddysey all have characters, strong-willed, and tough.

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## HISTORY OF THE PELOPONNESIAN WAR - THUCYDIDES

**NATION** | In Pericles' Funeral Oration, instead of paying respect to the martyrs, he paints an idealistic picture of Athens' superiority as a nation.

**HOSPITALITY** | In Pericles' Oration, he claims that Athenians are the masters of hospitality, thus making them better than other nations.

**WISDOM & KNOWLEDGE** | In Pericles' Oration, he claims that knowledge is free in Athens. They don't withhold knowledge, they're not afraid.

**WOMEN & FEMININITY** | In Pericles' Oration, it is regarded that women should not be talked about by man, whether it criticizes or praising.

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## SELECTIONS - PARMENIDES

**WISDOM & KNOWLEDGE** | *What-is & What-is-not*

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## SELECTIONS - HERACLITUS

**WISDOM & KNOWLEDGE** | Logos

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## PRAISE OF HELEN; ON NATURE OR ON WHAT IS NOT - GORGIAS

**WOMEN & FEMININITY** | In Praise of Helen, Gorgias argues Helen's innocence for 4 reasons. Act of Gods, kidnapped by force, deceived by rhetorics, blinded by love.

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## THE APOLOGY - PLATO

**DEATH & IMMORTALITY** | Socrates states that there are two likely scenarios after death. Either nothingness or afterlife. Since both scenarios are okay there is no reason to think that death is evil.

**PRIDE** | In Apology, Socrates claims that he only knows he knows nothing. It is quite modest.

**PIETY** | In Apology, Socrates is accused both of not acknowledging the Gods and of being in favor of evil.

**DECEIT & CUNNINGNESS** | Socrates blames some particular people for deceiving public that he committed some wrongdoings such as corrupting the youth and not acknowledging the gods.

**WISDOM & KNOWLEDGE** | Socrates thinks that human capacity of wisdom is quite low, therefore it is not wise for anyone to think that they're wise. He claims he is the wisest, because, apparently he is the only one who acknowledges not being wise.

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## **POLITICS - ARISTOTLE**

**MAN VS. NATURE** | In Politics, men can not survive on his own without being a beast or a god. Because of this they require city-states to be complete.

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## **THE BACCHAE - EURIPIDES**

**PRIDE** | In Bacchae, King Pentheus is a prude and an uptight person. He doesn't recognize the superiority of Dionysus which in the end results in his death.

**PIETY** | In Bacchae, king Pentheus is violently punished because he doesn't acknowledge Dionysus as a god.

**RECREATION** | In Bacchae, recreation is favorable by most people, but not by the king Pentheus who is pretty much a downer. Old people feel young, women feel empowered etc.

**DRUNKENNESS** | In Bacchae, wine is regarded as a symbol of chaos in contrast with wine & bread as a symbol of civilization and order in Gilgamesh.

**DECEIT & CUNNINGNESS** | In Bacchae, Dionysus is a deceitful god. He presents himself as a foreign, effeminate human; then profits from this cover recruiting more followers.

**MAN VS. NATURE** | In Bacchae, men enjoy nature and celebrate their harmony with it. Breast-feeding baby animals, dancing in the mountain, hunting (humans)

**WOMEN & FEMININITY** | In Bacchae, women rebel against society and are empowered, but through a male God and for this god's goals.