

## MYTH

*By Mike Harris*

A traditional or legendary story usually concerning some being or hero, or event with or without a determinable basis in fact or natural explanation, especially one that is concerned with deities or gods and explains some practice, rite, or phenomenon of nature. The above definition is verbatim from the dictionary. My interpretation of the above, an explanation for something beyond our understanding, something that helps ease our discomfort with the unknown. So we accept an explanation that has no scientific basis in fact, "go along to get along," "do not rock the boat."

Before the advent and the explosion of science, primitive man was seeking answers to the unexplainable. A whole body of literature called "Mythology" came into being around the time that Greece was a power on the planet. I recall my father bringing me a volume of Greek Mythology saying, "Here are some real make-believe stories to excite your fantasies." When I complained that some books he brought home for me were factual and reading them was no fun, such as when he took my "Tom Swift and His Motor Cycle", calling it trash and not well written. The volume "Greek Mythology" really posed some interesting questions and piqued my curiosity. Way back then the Greeks were asking, Were there super men in outer space? How did they get here? And what happened to them? They proposed that they got here but in so doing could not return. They then integrated with local population and became leaders or super humans or gods, and a new body of literature came to be "Mythology." It was only a short step, that the brightest humans found a way to exploit the less bright and made themselves the keepers of special knowledge supposedly given to them by the super beings that existed only in their fanciful minds.

Finally I am going to list and give a thumb nail biography of some of the characters that existed.

To start with there was "ZEUES" god of the sky, and the ruler of the "OLYMPIAN GODS." After the demise of "CRONUS" the three brothers, ZEUES, POSEIDON, and HADES, drew lots to divide the world. ZEUES won the draw and became the ruler of heaven and earth and married HERA, and proceeded to prove that "power corrupts." He was promiscuous and amoral and fathered one hundred children. His formidable war weapon was the thunder bolt which he could control with unusual accuracy. His brother POSEIDON is the GOD OF THE SEA, protector of all the waters. He married AMPIDTATE the granddaughter of TITAN OCEANUS, his weapon of war is the "TRIDENT" which can shake the earth and shatter any object. (For more information, "THESUS ADVENTURE", "PEGASUS", "OCEANUS".)

HADES, the third brother drew the least favorable third of the world, he was made LORD of the UNDERWORLD. He is also the GOD of WEALTH, due to the precious metals found in the earth. He is also KING OF THE DEAD but not death itself. "DEATH ITSELF" is controlled by another god THANOTOS.

Athena is the Greek Virgin Goddess of reason, intelligent activity, art and literature. She sprang fully grown in armor, is the daughter of ZEUES and has no mother. She is fierce and brave in

battle, and is the defender of state and home from outside enemies. Her favorite city is Athens.

APHRODITE is the goddess of Love, Desire, and Beauty, she represents Sex, Affection, and the Power of Attraction that binds people together.

I hope that I may have stirred some memories, gotten you reacquainted with some fun reading.