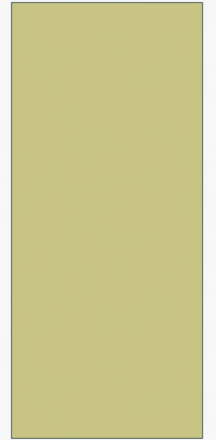


# CLASSICAL STUDIES II

## REVIEW

THE ILIAD



# THE ILIAD

- Review Books 1, 9, 12, 19, 22 on Shmoop
- ALSO review your notebooks – you have examples of heroism and the gods' natures.

## STEP 2:

- Website: Use the links!
- Play the videos in the background!
- <http://classicalkrajewski.weebly.com/the-iliad.html>

# CULTURE

- Both sides want to end the war and live in peace
- Paris broke Greek rules of hospitality (XENIA) – an important theme in the Odyssey too
- Homer makes us root for both sides

# HEROISM

- “Battle is where men win glory”
  - KLEOS – fame after death
- “Heroes are not unthinking fighting machines.”
- Fighting is a means to an end – glory/immortality
  - Heroes don't WANT to die, but accept death

# HEROISM

- Sarpedon's speech to Glaucus:

*Sarpedon is talking to Glaukos:*

'Glaukos, why is it that we two are held in the highest honour in Lycia, with pride of place, the best of the meat, the wine-cup always full, and all look on us like gods, and we have for our own use a great cut of the finest land by the banks of the Xanthos, rich in vineyard and wheat-bearing plough-land? That is why we should now be taking our stand at the front of the Lycian lines and facing the sear of battle, so that among the heavy-armoured Lycians people will say: "These are no worthless men who rule over us in Lycia, these kings we have who eat our fat sheep and drink the choice of our honey-sweet wine. No, they have strength too and courage, since they fight at the front of the Lycian lines." Dear friend, if we were going to live for ever, ageless and immortal, if we survived this war, then I would not be fighting in the front ranks myself or urging you into the battle where men win glory. But as it is, whatever we do the fates of death stand over us in a thousand forms, and no mortal can run from them or escape them – so let us go, and either give his triumph to another man, or he to us.'

Homer, *Iliad*, 12.310–28

# HEROISM

- Divine help does NOT detract from heroism.
- Gods only help winners.
- A god's help proves a hero is **WORTHY** of it!
  - (Achilles is delighted when Athene promises to trick Hector into fighting him.)

# SPEAKER OF WORDS AND DOER OF DEEDS

Then swift-footed Achilles answered him: 'Royal son of Laertes, resourceful Odysseus, what I say I must say outright, and tell you bluntly how I think and what will happen, so that you do not sit here and coo your blandishments at me one after another. I hate like the gates of Hades the man who hides one thing in his mind and speaks another. But I will tell you what seems right to me. I do not think that Agamemnon son of Atreus will win me over, nor the rest of the Danaans, since it now appears that there is no thanks if a man fights the enemy relentlessly on and on. Stay at home or fight your hardest – your share will be the same. Coward and hero are honoured alike. Death does not distinguish do-nothing and do-all. And it has done me no profit to have suffered all that pain with my life at constant risk. Like a bird that brings back to her unfledged chicks every morsel she can find, and has to go without herself, so it has been with me.'

Homer, *Iliad* 9. 310–325

- Achilles is a great thinker, not just a killing machine.



# ACHILLES

- Was totally right to walk away from Agamemnon, but wrong when he won't accept compensation?
- Fights for glory but also because he holds himself accountable for Patroclus' death

# AENEAS

- Rescued four times by the gods: twice in Book Five from Diomedes (by Aphrodite and Apollo) and twice in Book Twenty from Achilles (account of past rescue by Zeus and Poseidon who mentions his destiny).

# DEATH

- Mortals, demigods and gods battle and are injured, but Apollo reminds Diomedes that gods can play at war, but mortals (demigods included) will die.

# DEATH

- No one dies happily or well.
- No reward awaits, or heaven is there to receive the warrior.
- It is darkness, tragic, and full of horror.

# THE GODS

- Humanity is evident – they quarrel, feast, tease, enjoy entertainment and go to bed with their wives
- During the day they battle on behalf of their mortal favorites and receive pain (Hera sweats, Aphrodite and Ares are wounded...)
- No human crosses a god.
- “[They] work to extremes. They love you or hate you, support you or disown you, are close or distant.”

# THE GODS/FATE

- All acknowledge Zeus as master
- Fate is the will of Homer(?)
  - Responsibility assigned to divine will and human impulse at the same time (Example: Book 9 Diomedes says Achilles will return “When his heart tells him to, and the god moves him.”)

# ZEUS AND FATE

- Book 16: Death of Sarpedon:
  - Hint that Zeus COULD overpower and change Fate, but won't to maintain peace on Olympus???
  - Apollo quote: "...he will not fight...for the sake of insignificant mortals, who...fade away and are dead."
- WEEPS at the death of his son

# THE GODS - WHAT YOU SHOULD DO

- Make a chart: of the Gods' actions:
- Times they are:
  - Ruthless
  - Kind
  - Magnificent/Majestic
  - Aloof
  - Other???



# THEMES TO CONSIDER

- Xenia – Hospitality and familial connections
- Kleos - glory
- Forgiveness
- Pride/*Timé*/Arete

# THE GODS - RUTHLESS

- Apollo strips Patroclus
- Book 14: Hera seduces Zeus while Poseidon causes a massacre among the men

# THE GODS - KIND

- Iris comforts Priam

# THE GODS - MAJESTIC

- Neptune racing across waters in his chariot
- Book 1: Olympus shakes when Zeus makes a promise to Thetis

# THE GODS - ALOOF

- Book 1: Hephaestus calls out Zeus and Hera for squabbling over “mere mortals” and ruining the feast