Was Poseidon Important to the Ancient Greeks?

Poseidon was very important to the Ancient Greeks. This report will prove Poseidon’s importance to the Ancient Greeks through him being part of the family of Zeus, him being “the god over the sea, earthquakes and horses” (“Poseidon” Mythweb), and him being essential to the Earth. The following three paragraphs will give evidence for these reasons.

This paragraph will explain how Poseidon being in the family of Zeus proves his importance to Ancient Greeks. Firstly, Zeus “was the god of the sky and the ruler of the Olympian Gods (“Zeus” Greek Mythology). This must have increased Poseidon’s popularity and influenced the Ancient Greeks to worship him, as he is the powerful King Zeus’s brother. Secondly, Poseidon fought alongside Zeus and the other rebels in the titanomachy (the overthrowing of Cronus), as “Zeus then waged a war against his father with his disgorged brothers and sisters as allies: Hestia, Demeter, Hera, Hades, and Poseidon” (“Titanomachy” Wikipedia). If it wasn’t for him being a brother of Zeus, he wouldn’t have been chosen to battle in this war and would not be considered a hero. Lastly, Poseidon, along with his brothers Zeus and Hades, received some of the best godly powers from the Cyclopes after freeing them from Tartarus, which were “Zeus’s thunderbolt, Hades’ helmet of invisibility, and Poseidon’s trident, and the gods use these weapons to defeat the titans” (“Cyclops” Wikipedia). Gods with the best powers are often worshipped the most and considered most important for having the best power, and since Poseidon received one of these powers, this caused Ancient Greeks to worship him more and thus consider him important.

This paragraph will explain how Poseidon being the god of the sea, the god of earthquakes, and the god of horses proves his importance to the Ancient Greeks. First of all, Poseidon is mainly known as the god of the sea, but is also the god “of all water in general” (“Poseidon” Britannica). As the Earth is mainly composed of water (roughly 70%), this shows Poseidon’s great power over the Earth, and proves his importance to Ancient Greeks. Second of all, despite being a sea god, Poseidon is also the god of earthquakes, as “if he strikes the ground with his trident, an earthquake will happen” (“Trident of Poseidon” Greek Mythology Wiki). Since Poseidon is able to cause and control such deadly disasters, this again shows how much power he has to the Ancient Greeks. Last of all, Poseidon is even the god of horses, because “Demeter asked him to make the most beautiful animal the world has ever seen. So, in effort to impress her, Poseidon created the first horse” (“Poseidon” Greek Mythology.com). Horses were a very important animal in ancient times as they could perform many hard tasks easily and save valuable time, so Poseidon was worshipped and considered very important for creating the horse for Ancient Greeks.

This paragraph will explain how Poseidon being essential to the Earth proves his importance to Ancient Greeks. The first reason why he’s essential to Earth is that since Poseidon has power of the sea, as “his trident creates waves and tsunamis” (“Trident of Poseidon” Greek Mythology Wiki). Though, if he has the power over the sea, I inference that he can do other things like make waters calm or enraged, and control the movement of sea creatures. With this power, he can nourish dry lands with floods from waves he creates; calm the waters so sailors can pass by safely, and round fish near fishermen so they can have a good catch, which is important to humans and the land. The second reason why Poseidon is important to the Earth and its inhabitants is that though the earthquakes he creates may be destructive; they also help soil, since Poseidon “was worshipped as “asphalios” stabilizer (“Poseidon” Britannica). Proper soil conditions are essential for plant life to grow, so Poseidon’s earthquakes were especially helpful to plant-growers like farmers and areas that naturally don’t have good soil to grow plants, showing his importance. Last of all, Poseidon was the creator of the horse, one of Ancient Greece’s best tools back then. Horses could be used for many things like “battle, racing, hunting, and travelling” (“Horses in Greek Life” University of Colorado Boulder). Horses could even breed with donkeys, one of Earth’s normal animals, to create the mule, a new wild animal that was very helpful on farms, showing that Poseidon’s creation of horses was very essential to the Earth, but especially to the people of Earth.

Since Poseidon was in the family of Zeus, was the god of the sea, earthquakes, and horses, and was essential to the Earth, Poseidon was very important to the Ancient Greeks. Though he was very important centuries ago, the worship of Poseidon and other Greek gods has greatly dwindled due to the many new religions, and now Poseidon is not as important as he was ages ago. However, when Poseidon was an important god, he was definitely one of the most important gods around.

Works Cited Page

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