

The Works and Days of Hesiod

Lines 1-10 – Hymn to Zeus

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"Let him hear the advice of Hesiod. . . . The advice of Hesiod is good." —Aristotle

"Lampon . . . greatly honors the sayings of Hesiod, the one he declares and recommends to his sons."
—Pindar

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Hymn to Zeus

Lines 1-10

PIERIAN MUSES, YOU who glorify through your songs, come here and with a hymn say something about Zeus, your own father. It is through him that mortal men are either named or not and known or not by the will of great Zeus. He easily makes a man strong and mighty, and just as easily he crushes his strength and might. He easily lays low the conspicuous man and raises high the one unknown.

Dwelling in the uppermost house, high-thundering Zeus easily straightens out the crooked man and withers the arrogant.

Hear me, *Zeus*, you who watch and listen, and make decrees straight with justice. [10] As for me, I will convey what is true—*what is actual and real*—to Perses.

So ends Reading 1, "Hymn to Zeus." See you in Reading 2, "The Two Strifes."



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