



History & Geography

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For geography, you can read chapters 23-28 of Richard Halliburton's *Book of Marvels: The Occident* (online [here](#)). See the next page for website links that coincide with these chapters.

We have selected 3 maps for your family to study: a map at the height of Alexander the Great's Greek Empire, a map at the height of the Roman Empire, and a current-day map showing where Italy and Greece are in relation to one another within Europe.

Optional history for older students: *The Story of Mankind*, chapters 12-26. (Log in to the course page to download these chapters.)

We've also included a summary of the 12 main Olympian gods and goddesses in both Greek and Roman mythology below.

"Time, as it grows old, teaches all things."

~ Aeschylus

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To really make Richard Halliburton's *Book of Marvels: The Occident* come alive, check out the corresponding [Complete Book of Marvels](#) website. The following URLs directly coincide with the chapters you will study:

- Chapter 23, [St. Peter's](#)
- Chapter 24, [August 24th, in the Year 79](#)
- Chapter 25, [The City that Rose from the Dead](#)
- Chapter 26, [The Magic Grotto](#)
- Chapter 27, [Athena's Temple](#)
- Chapter 28, [No Woman's Land](#)

Additionally, [this site](#) has more videos to go alongside the chapters.

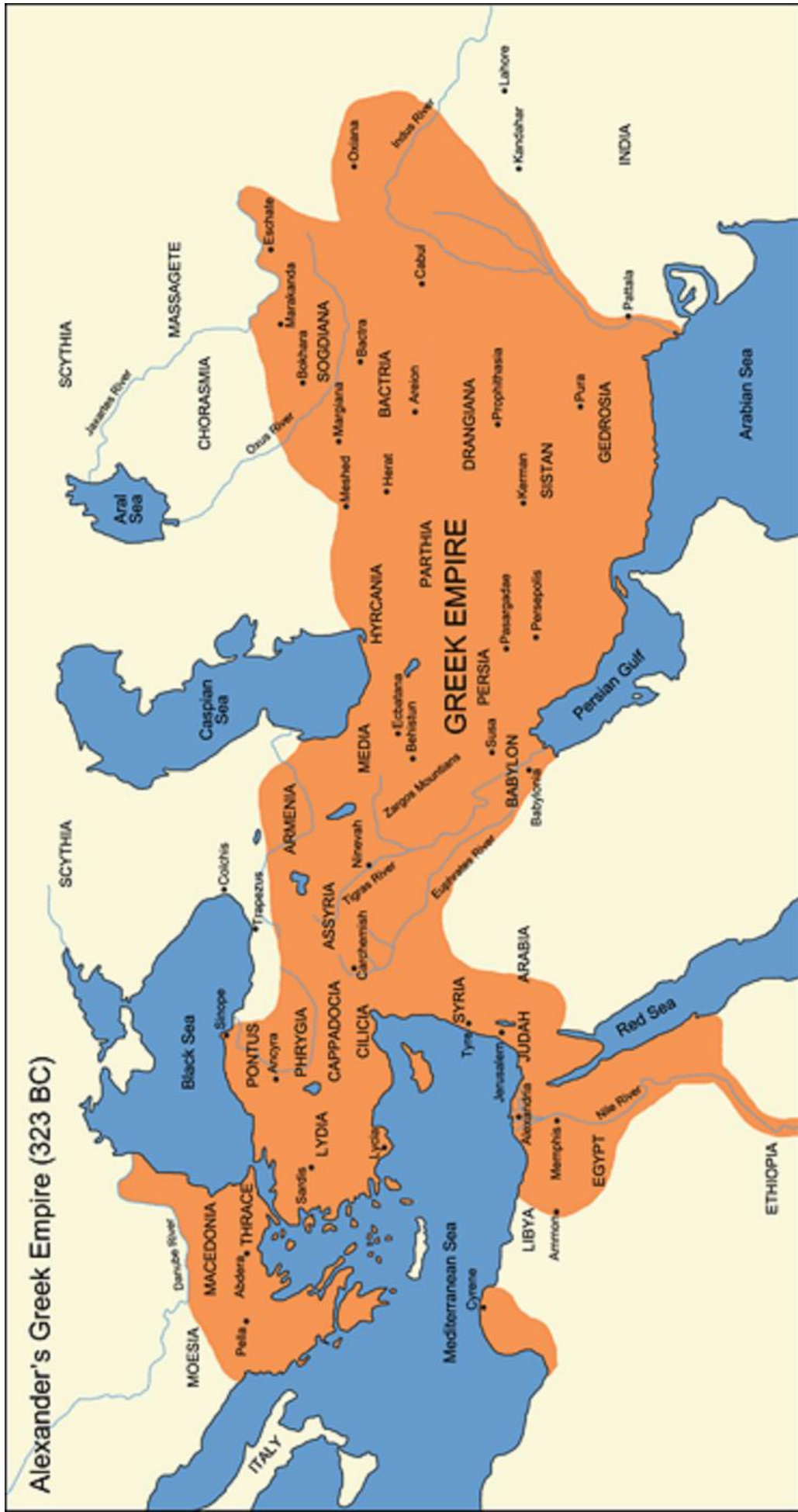
For further study:

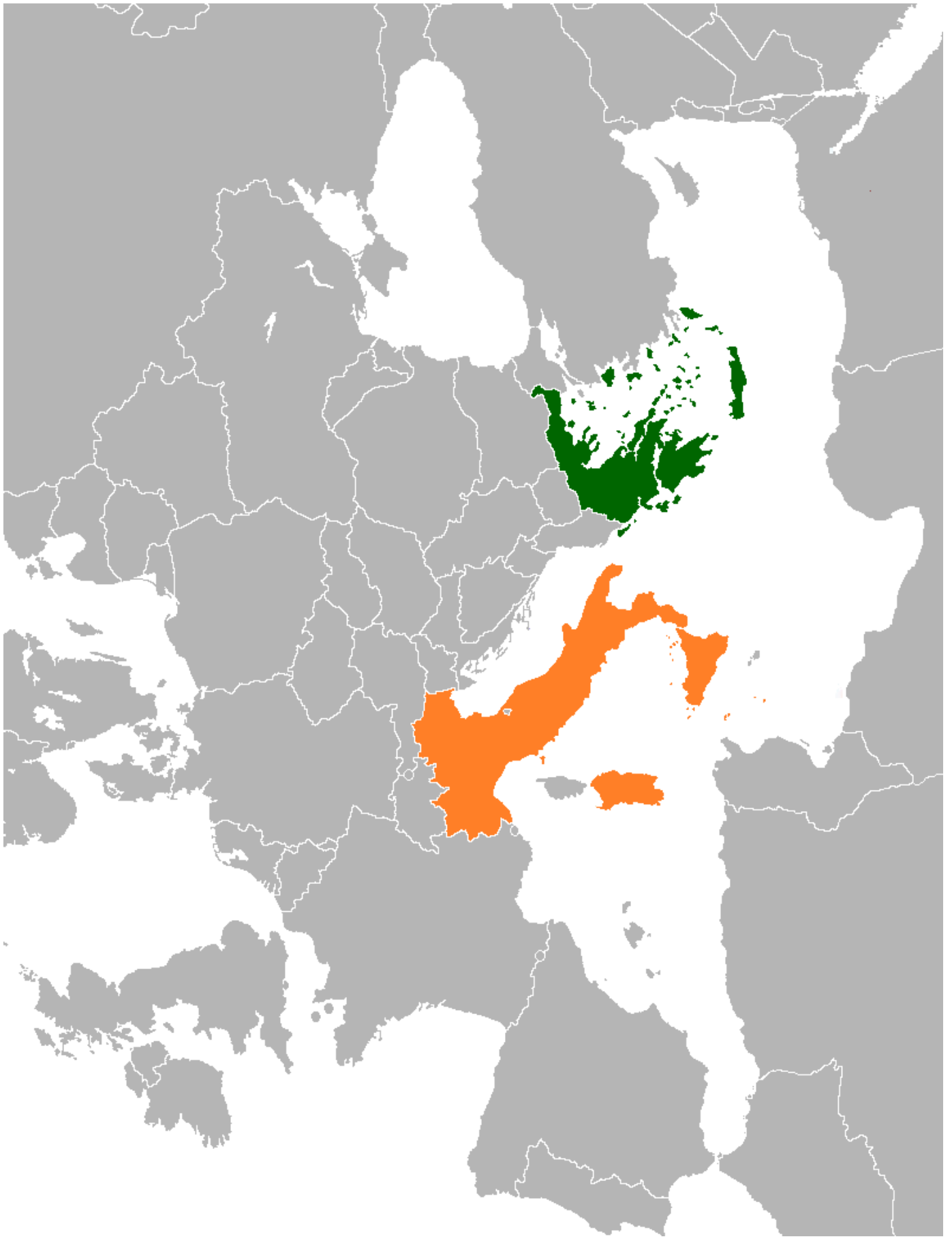
40 Maps that Explain the Roman Empire:

<https://www.vox.com/world/2018/6/19/17469176/roman-empire-maps-history-explained>

(Please prescreen this website.)

Other links: History: Ancient Greece <https://www.history.com/topics/ancient-greece/ancient-greece>, and Ancient Rome <https://www.history.com/topics/ancient-rome/ancient-rome>





Greek and Roman Gods and Goddesses

From the beginning of time, humans have wanted to understand how they came to be and how the world works. Greek mythology is a result of this: it is the Ancient Greeks' way of answering those questions for themselves. These stories revolved around many different gods and goddesses who were believed to have control over different aspects of life, such as love, war, and nature. These same gods and goddesses were later adopted by the Romans when they conquered and ruled over Greek territories, and they changed their names and reinterpreted their myths from a Roman perspective. The gods and goddesses were believed to reside on Mount Olympus, and each god or goddess had unique personalities and roles. Listed below are the twelve most prominent Olympian gods and goddesses:

Zeus, known as **Jupiter** in Roman mythology, was the ruler over all of the Greek gods. His domain was the sky, and he ruled side by side with his wife, **Hera**, also known as **Juno**, who was considered the goddess of marriage and family.

Zeus' two brothers, Hades and Poseidon, both had powerful realms themselves. **Poseidon**, known to the Romans as **Neptune**, was the god of the sea and was also believed to have control over earthquakes. Many sailors throughout history would pay tribute to him in hopes that he would keep them safe on long voyages.

Hades, known also as **Pluto**, was the god of the dead and the ruler of the Underworld. The Underworld was where Greeks, and later Romans, believed souls went after death. Hades ruled along with his wife, **Persephone**, who was known as **Proserpina** to the Romans. She was considered the goddess of spring and divided her time equally between the Underworld and the surface above, living half of the year on the Earth and bringing spring and summer, then living in the Underworld during autumn and winter. When Persephone visited the world above, she lived with her mother, **Demeter**, (**Ceres** to Romans) who was known as the goddess of agriculture and the harvest.

Ares, the god of battle and war, was another important figure. Many Greeks did not like him, as he was believed to represent the bad aspects of war and therefore thought to have a sharp temper. However, he was greatly revered by the Romans, who knew him as the deity **Mars** and considered him a powerful warrior. Ares was not the only warrior god: **Athena**, known as **Minerva** to Romans, was the goddess of wisdom as well as strategy and warfare, and she was revered by both the Greeks and Romans.

Hephaestus (**Vulcan** to the Romans) was the god of the forge, craftsmen, and volcanoes. He was believed to have created masterful weaponry and armor for gods and many of the heroes of myth. He was married to **Aphrodite** (**Venus** in Roman mythology), who was the goddess of love and beauty. She was very popular in Ancient Greece and Ancient Rome, and many prayed to her for matters of love.

Lastly, Artemis and Apollo were twin deities. Though they were siblings, their powers were very different. **Apollo**, also known as **Helios**, represented the sun and was credited as the driver of a fiery chariot that moved the sun across the sky every day. Additionally, he was considered the god of music, medicine, and poetry. On the other hand, his sister **Artemis**, known by Romans as **Diana**, represented the moon. She was also believed to be the goddess of the hunt and led a group of people who hunted and adventured with her.

Throughout history, various cultures across the world have created mythologies to explain the mysteries of life. However, both Greek and Roman mythology stand out among the most well-known and influential. Their impact can be seen in literature, art, and even the names of our planets and constellations. These stories not only entertained but also served as a way to pass down morals and values to future generations. The myths of these Greek and Roman gods continue to fascinate people today, providing insight into the beliefs and the rich culture of these ancient civilizations.