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Hesiod

Hesiod: Theogony, Works and Days, Shield Hesiod

Hesiod belongs to the transitional period in Greek civilization between the oral tradition and the introduction of a written alphabet. His two major surviving works, the *Theogony* and the *Works and Days*, address the divine and the mundane, respectively. The *Theogony* traces the origins of the Greek gods and recounts the events surrounding the crowning of Zeus as their king. A manual of moral instruction in verse, the *Works and Days* was addressed to farmers and peasants.

Introducing his celebrated translations of these two poems and of the *Shield*, a very ancient poem of disputed authorship, Apostolos Athanassakis positions Hesiod simultaneously as a philosopher-poet, a bard with deep roots in the culture of his native Boeotia, and the heir to a long tradition of Hellenic poetry. For this eagerly anticipated revised edition, Athanassakis has provided an expanded introduction on Hesiod and his work, subtly amended his faithful translations, significantly augmented the notes and index, and updated the bibliography. Already a classic, *Hesiod: Theogony, Works and Days, Shield* is now more valuable than ever for students of Greek mythology and literature.

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