# Ancient Egyptian religion

6-4 thousand years BC— the middle of the first millennium AD.

## Mythology

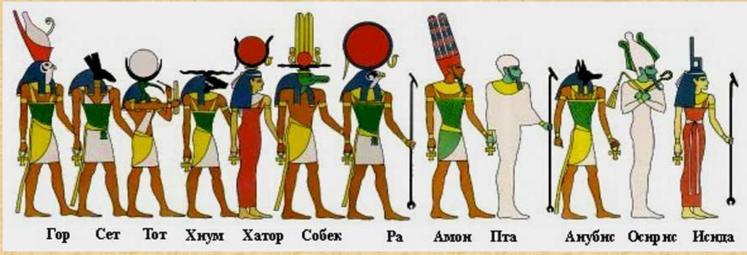
Egyptian myths were metaphorical stories intended to illustrate and explain the gods' actions and roles in nature.



# **Animal cults**

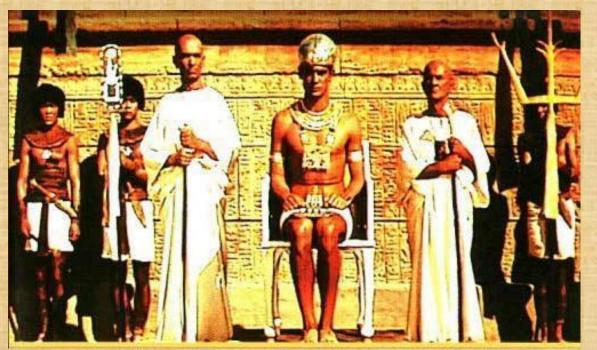


At many sacred sites, the Egyptians worshipped individual animals which they believed to be manifestations of particular deities.



#### Oracles

The Egyptians used oracles to ask the gods for knowledge or guidance. People of all classes, including the king, asked questions of oracles.



#### **Ritual and magical texts**

The procedures for religious rituals were frequently written on papyri, which were used as instructions for those performing the ritual. These ritual texts were kept mainly in the temple libraries.



#### Ancient Greek religion

encompasses the collection of beliefs, rituals, and mythology originating in ancient Greece in the form of both popular public religion and cult practices.

#### Mythology

Greek religion had an extensive mythology. It consisted largely of stories of the gods and how they interacted with humans.



There was a hierarchy of deities, with Zeus, the king of the gods, having a level of control over all the others, although he was not almighty.



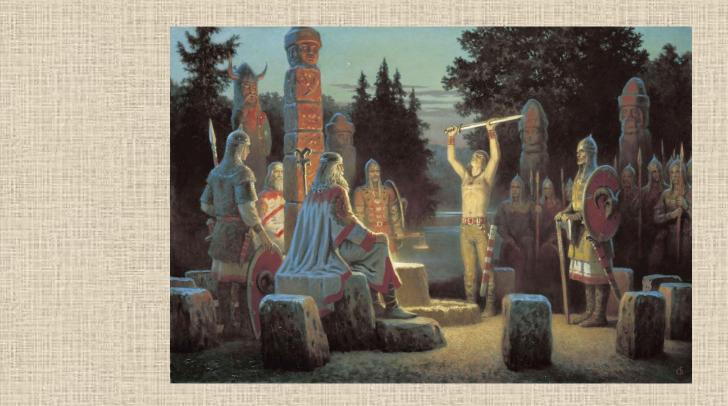
Having defeated the Titans, the younger gods, led by Zeus, settled on Mount Olympus. The ancient Greeks honored 12 Olympic gods. Their list usually included Zeus, Hera, Athena, Hephaestus, Apollo, Artemis, Poseidon, Ares, Aphrodite, Demeter, Hermes, Hestia.

## Sacrifice

Worship in Greece typically consisted of sacrificing domestic animals at the altar with hymn and prayer. Parts of the animal were then burned for the gods; the worshippers would eat the rest.



# Historical Slavic religion



#### The Gods of Slavic Mythology



Slavic religion, in its narrower sense, defines the religious beliefs, godlores and ritual practices of the Slavs before the formal Christianization of their ruling elites under the influence of Byzantine Orthodox Christianity, beginning with the latter's official adoption in 988 CE by Vladimir of Kievan Rus '.





