

Worship of Hermes

There are many ways in which one can honor the god [Hermes] in the modern day world:

1. Make offerings.

There were many offerings which would be acceptable:

1. Coins

Hermes is a god of the marketplace, gambling, commerce, and thieves.

2. Strawberries

"In the sanctuary of Promakhos (the Champion) is kept all that is left of the wild strawberry-tree under which they believe that Hermes was nourished." -

Pausanias 9.22.1-2

3. Libations

Wine, oil, water, or honey would all be appropriate, classical libations to the gods.

4. Incense

Styrax (AKA Storax, Styrax benzoin or simply benzoin) and frankincense were specified by the Orphic Hymns for Hermes.

2. Gamble.

Buy a lottery ticket, spend some time in Las Vegas or Atlantic City--or take a meaningful risk in your life which would be akin to a gamble.

3. **Play dice or card games.**

Hermes is a god of luck and chance. If gambling doesn't appeal to you, games of chance would make a great offering, or even an agon to him. An agon was a contest or competition held on behalf of the gods in classical times, and is a great way for two or more people to honor the gods.

When is it especially appropriate to honor Hermes?

1. During periods of unemployment, or as a thank you for becoming employed.
2. For wealth gained, especially if it was a lucky find or a win.
3. Before, during, and/or after travel.
4. As a thank you for anything lucky that has come your way, or if you require luck.
5. As a thank you for any successful business transaction, or during such.

From: http://www.templehermes.com/honoring_hermes.html
(Temple of Hermes)

I decided to worship Hermes...

From now on, I will believe in Hermes because he gave Man the gift of medicine, and in my humble opinion (which happens to be the Opinion I'm most likely to refer when I want to know what I'm thinking) the Doctor is the only one on this planet who have a real sense of Honor because he's consecrating his/her life to the well being of others.

From: <http://forums.utopiatemple.com/showthread.php?t=50147>
(Helvetie)

[The Temple Hermes](#)

Welcome

Submitted by hermesadmin on Sun, 02/27/2011 - 17:15

This is the modern Temple Hermes, a temple to the great messenger of the gods and guide to the underworld. An Olympian god and one of the primary archetypes of modern western civilization, Hermes is alive and well in the modern world and has embraced the technic age and its achievements. Hermes is the patron of boundaries and crossings; patron of travelers and the lost; patron of computing and calculation; patron of shepherds and cowherds; patron of the adroitness of liars and the cunning of thieves; patron of networking and digital media; patron of speeches, rhetoric and wit, patron of language, literature and poetry, patron of athletics, sports and games, patron of weights and measures, patron of engineers and invention, patron of secrets and magick, and the patron of commerce in general.

From: <http://templehermes.org/>

Hermes is first attested in the Mycenaean pantheon, as Hermes Araoia ("Ram Hermes") in Linear B inscriptions at Pylos and Mycenaean Knossos, circa 1450 BC making Hermes as old as Mithra, Soma, and Dionysus. The ancient name combination of

Hermes and the Ram a symbol of wool should be noted, since the “golden” Amanita muscaria mushroom can quickly transform itself into a wooly “Ram”. Hermes is the herald and messenger of the Greek Olympian gods, the son of Zeus and the nymph Maia, daughter of Atlas and one of the Pleiades. Hermes is the god of boundaries/transitions/transformations, a God of shepherds, land travel, merchants, weights and measures, oratory, literature, athletics and thieves, a god known for his cunning and shrewdness. Most importantly, he is the “messenger” (Gr. angelos - Angel) of the Gods. Besides that he was a patron of poetry and music, inventing the lyre, the pan pipe, and the flute. Hermes carried a magical “golden staff” with which he could cause sleep or withhold sleep from men or Gods. Over time Hermes staff sprouted wings, acquired two serpents and is today called the Caduceus, the symbol of modern Medicine, which is very fitting since Hermes was a “master healer”, who over time transferred his healing power to his Son Asclepius. Hermes was considered the inventor of the religious sacrifices to the other gods, and hence he not only acts the part of a herald at sacrifices (Aristoph. Pax, 433), but is also the protector of sacrificial animals, and was believed in particular to increase the fertility of sheep. He was worshiped throughout Greece, especially in Arcadia, and festivals in his honor were called Hermoea.

According to legend, Hermes was born in a cave on Mount Cyllene in Arcadia. He was the child of Zeus (sky father) and the nymph Maia (earth), Zeus had impregnated Maia in the dead of night while all other gods slept, when dawn broke that morning, Hermes was born. The legendary mountain top cave birth is something that the Immortal Gods Hermes, Soma, and

Mithra share. The legendary theft of sacred cattle which represent the Soma “plant” are also common themes these three gods share in their stories. Soma, Hermes and Mithra are all credited in their legends, with creating the first sacrifice to the gods. Hermes “broad brimmed hat”, “golden wings”, the magic healing “golden winged staff”, and his position as a God and “messenger of the Gods” show great correspondence with Soma, and other Sacramental uses of the Amanita muscaria mushroom.

The Homeric hymn to Hermes invokes him as the one "of many shifts (polytropos), blandly cunning, a robber, a cattle driver, a bringer of dreams, a watcher by night, a thief at the gates, one who was soon to show forth wonderful deeds among the deathless gods."

In very ancient Greece, Hermes was “a phallic god of boundaries” often represented with a standing carved phallus of wood or stone, later Hermes was depicted as an older, bearded, male bust on a square pillar with genitals carved at the bottom in keeping with his status as a phallic god. In the 6th century B.C.E., the traditional Hermes was re-imagined as an athletic youth. Statues of the new type of Hermes stood at stadiums and gymnasiums throughout Greece. In these new statues Hermes was conceived of having “golden wings” attached to a “rounded top, broad brimmed hat” carrying his magic healing Staff, as sculpture further evolved, his sandals or his ankles, also sprouted wings as a symbol of his great speed in service to men and Gods.

From:

http://www.ambrosiasociety.org/hermes_hermeticism.html