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## LESSON 1: *Olden Times, Gaea, The Titans, Cronus* (pp. 9-15)

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### FACTS TO KNOW

1. **Gaea** – Mother Earth, mother of all living things
2. **Uranus** – Father Sky
3. **Titans & Titanesses** – first children of Earth and Uranus; giants
4. **Cyclopes** – one-eyed children of Earth and Uranus
5. **Tartarus** – the deepest, darkest pit of the earth
6. **Cronus** – youngest Titan; overcame Uranus
7. **Rhea** – wife and sister of Cronus; a Titaness
8. **Zeus** – youngest child of Cronus; King of gods
9. **Crete\*** – island where Zeus was raised

\* Asterisk indicates map locations.

### VOCABULARY

1. **magnificent** to behold \_\_\_\_\_ superb, wonderful
2. warm and **bountiful** mother \_\_\_\_\_ plentiful, abundant
3. lord of the **universe** \_\_\_\_\_ milky way galaxy, the world
4. **tremendously** strong smiths \_\_\_\_\_ extremely, immensely
5. looked at them with **disgust** \_\_\_\_\_ strong dislike
6. of hardest **flint** \_\_\_\_\_ a hard stone
7. she fashioned a **sickle** \_\_\_\_\_ curved metal blade with a short handle
8. out of her **crevices** \_\_\_\_\_ narrow openings, cracks
9. his **monstrous** brothers \_\_\_\_\_ gigantic, unnatural
10. But Rhea **mourned** [**mourn**] \_\_\_\_\_ to express sorrow or grief

### COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

1. How were the Greek gods similar to mortals in olden times? How were they different?

The Greek gods looked and acted like people, but were taller, more handsome, and could do no wrong. (p. 9)

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2. What did Uranus do to upset Mother Earth?

Uranus seized his children and threw them into Tartarus. (p. 12)

3. Name all the children of Gaea and Uranus.

6 Titans & 6 Titanesses, 3 Cyclopes, 3 sons with 50 heads and 100 arms (p. 12)

4. Who became the lord of the Universe after Uranus, and how did he get this position?

Cronus became the lord of the Universe by daring to obey his mother and taking a sickle to his father, Uranus. (p. 12)

5. What did Cronus do to all of his children? Why?

Cronus swallowed the newborns in fear that they would one day overthrow him. (p. 14)

6. How did Rhea and Mother Earth fool Cronus?

When Rhea's sixth child was born, Rhea wrapped a rock in baby clothes and tricked Cronus into swallowing the rock instead of the newborn. Rhea then hid the baby in a secret cave on the Island of Crete. (p. 15)

7. Who was the sixth child of Rhea, hidden in youth?

Zeus (p. 16)

#### ACTIVITIES

##### Identify:

- p. 11 – Mother Earth and Father Sky. Why are there stars in their eyes?
  - p. 13 – Mother Earth, Uranus, Cyclopes, Titans, Titanesses, Cronus, 100-eyed children. What is Cronus doing? What is Uranus doing?
  - p. 14 – Cronus. What is he doing? What is in his stomach? Where is his sickle?
  - p. 15 – Rhea, Zeus. Why is she running away?
  - Map – Crete
1. When was the Greek Golden Age? the Biblical Golden Age? What are the characteristics of a golden age?
  2. Genesis 1:27 says, "God created man in his own image." In consideration of this statement, how did the Greeks perceive their gods?
  3. Think of some modern things that have the name Titan. Why is that name used?

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#### ACTIVITIES

1. The Greek Golden Age was during the reign of Cronus. The Biblical Golden Age was at the time of Adam and Eve, before the Fall. A golden age is associated with harmony among men, nature, and God.
2. The Greeks perceived their gods to be in the image of men, and conversely, men in the image of their gods. Because of this, they were prepared for the idea of man presented in the Gospel. They also recognized that there was something greater than and beyond the self.
3. Persons or groups use the name "Titan" to project an image of great power and size. An example is the Tennessee Titans football team. Powerful men such as John D. Rockefeller and Andrew Carnegie are metaphorically called "titans."

#### QUESTIONS TO MARK FOR REVIEW & MASTERY

Students should mark the following items in their study guides, which they will be responsible for on their test:

**Facts to Know:** Gaea, Uranus, Cronus, Zeus, Crete

**Vocabulary:** bountiful

**Comprehension Questions:** #5, 7

**Geography:** Crete