

Chapter 4 - Assignment 2: *Ethos* of the Seven Sages

“The Seven Sages and the Solid-Gold Beaker” by Demetrius of Phalerum

1. According to legend, Bathycles of Arcadia once had owned a beaker that was made of solid gold. When he died, what was his son Amphalces supposed to do with it?

2. The beaker was offered to seven different men, and each one of the seven men refused to keep the beaker. In order of receipt, who were those seven men?

(i) _____

(ii) _____

(iii) _____

(iv) _____

(v) _____

(vi) _____

(vii) _____

3. Thales of Miletus received the beaker twice, but he didn't receive it from the same person each time. Did he get the beaker from two of the seven men who received it? Why or why not? Explain.

4. After the beaker had been offered to (and declined by) seven different men, it was dedicated to a god. What is the name of that god?

“The Seven Sages and the Bowl” by Maeandrius of Miletus

5. According to legend, Bathycles of Arcadia once had owned a bowl. When he died, what was his son Thyriion supposed to do with it?

6. The bowl was offered to seven different men, and each one of the seven men refused to keep the bowl. In no particular order, who were those seven men?
 - (i) _____
 - (ii) _____
 - (iii) _____
 - (iv) _____
 - (v) _____
 - (vi) _____
 - (vii) _____

7. After the bowl had been offered to (and declined by) seven different men, it was dedicated to a god. Who was that god?

8. According to one version of the story, Thales of Miletus received the bowl twice, but he didn't receive it from the same person each time. In that version of the story, did he get the bowl from two of the seven men who received it? Why or why not? Explain.

9. According to another version of the story, Thales of Miletus received the beaker only once. In that version of the story, was Thales the first man to receive the bowl? Why or why not? Explain.

“The Seven Sages and the Golden Goblet” by Maeandrius of Miletus

10. According to legend, King Croesus of Lydia owned a golden goblet. What did he want his friend to do with it?

11. The goblet was offered to seven different men, and each one of the seven men refused to keep the goblet. In no particular order, who were those seven men?

(i) _____

(ii) _____

(iii) _____

(iv) _____

(v) _____

(vi) _____

(vii) _____

12. Who was the first man to receive the goblet from the friend of Croesus?

The Big Picture

13. Based on the name of their group of seven, the Seven Sages of Greece were thought to exemplify which one of the four cardinal virtues? (Hint: They were the Επτά σοφοί.)

14. Even though they disagreed about who the Seven Sages of Greece were, Ancient Greeks agreed about who four of the Seven Sages were. Who were those four sages?

(i) _____

(ii) _____

(iii) _____

(iv) _____