

Chapter 15 - Assignment 4: Plato's *Critias* Dialogue

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In order to answer the following questions, read pages 12—16 in Chapter 15.

1. According to Critias, what's the difference between how we treat imitations of humans and how we treat imitations of gods?

2. According to Critias, what's the difference between shepherds and gods?

3. Critias continued his story about prehistoric Athens.

(i) According to Critias, which two Olympian gods were the two patron gods of prehistoric Athens?

(ii) According to Critias, how were the warriors of prehistoric Athens like the guardians of the virtuous city that Socrates described in Plato's *Republic*?

4. Critias continued his story about Atlantis.

(i) According to Critias, which Olympian god was the patron god of Atlantis?

(ii) According to Critias, why was the first King of Atlantis named "Atlas"?

5. According to Timaeus, the diet of the Atlanteans was the diet of the very first humans.
- (i) Based on how Critias described Atlantis, why did Timaeus think that the Atlantean diet was the diet of the very first humans?

- (ii) According to Socrates, was that an unhealthy diet? Why or why not? Explain.
(Note: To review Book 2 of Plato's *Republic*, see pages 8–12 in Chapter 13.)