

# ἄδης

Host of Many

Jamie Waggoner | SassyCon 2026

# Who is Hades?



*Left: Ploutonion Temple at Hierapolis (Pamukkale, Turkey). Center: Kylix, 430 BCE (British Museum). Right: Roman statue of Plouton, 1st century CE (Getty Villa Museum).*

# The Host of Many

One of his many epithets, Polydegmon, means “Host of Many” and refers to the idea that Hades hosts all of humanity between lifetimes.



# The Wealthy One

Due to the abundance of precious resources and shades that inhabit his realm, Hades is also often referred to as “The Wealthy One” (Plouton) among the gods.



**AIDONEUS:** The Unseen One

**EUCHAITES:** The Beautiful-Haired One

**KLYMENOS:** Notorious

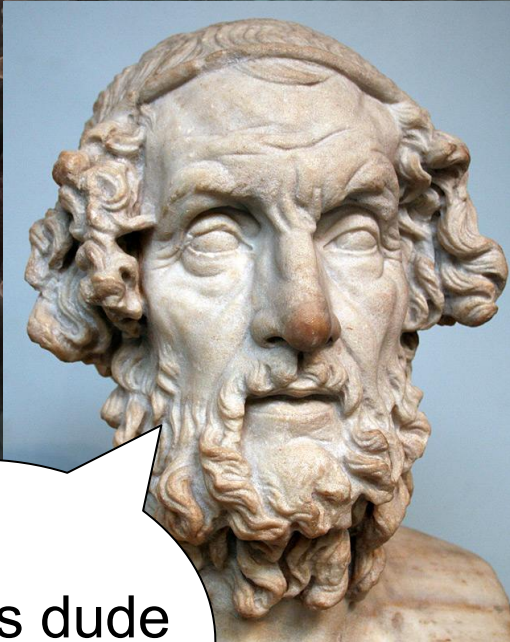
**EUBULEUS:** Good Counselor or Consoler

**ADAMASTOS:** The Unbreakable

**ORKOS:** Avenger of Oaths



# Origin Stories



Man, this dude  
Odysseus...



Kronos was a  
real jerk.

*Image Credits: Roman copy of a lost 2nd-century BCE Hellenistic bust of Homer (left);  
Roman copy of supposed bust of Hesiod (right).*

# Ploutonion Temple at Hierapolis



# Common Misconceptions

Hades is not the god of death, nor the supernatural being who comes to claim you at the end of your life.

Hades has no control over the length of a lifetime, or the chosen hour of death for any individual.



# Common Misconceptions

Hades is more of an “executive administrator” than a judge or punisher of the dead. He delegates.

Hades is not the Devil, and his Underworld is not Hell.



# Why Befriend Hades?

If your vocation or interests draw you to the mysteries of death and dying, ghosts, mediumship, psychopomp work, paranormal inquiry, etc.

If you resonate with khthonic, earthy energies.  
He's the OG goth.



# But wait, there's more...

If you want to cultivate a sense of what “wealth” means to you, learn to appreciate it, and welcome more of it into your life (Pluton)

If you want powerful and protective Unseen allies (Adamastos)

If you want assistance with Shadow work – yours or the collective (Klymenos)



# But wait, there's still more...

If you want to become adept at invisibility and glamoury  
(Aidoneus, Euchaites)

If you seek justice for oathbreakers and/or the dead (Orkos)

If you want to invite healthy masculinity into your life  
(Polydegmon, Eubuleus)



# Katabasis: The Underworld Journey

*Katabasis* is the Greek term for making a trip to the Underworld.

It is usually associated with Greco-Roman mythology, but also used in other traditions as a general term to describe any journey to the realm of the dead.



# Κατάβασις

Katabasis

Jamie Waggoner | Austin Witchfest 2026



The background is a dark, textured composition. On the left, there are soft, teal-colored bokeh shapes. On the right, there are larger, overlapping purple bokeh circles. Scattered throughout are numerous small, glowing particles in shades of teal, purple, and gold. The overall effect is a vibrant, ethereal, and celebratory atmosphere.

# Thanks Y'all!

*Concilio et labore, crescit eundo.*

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