

Temples

Temples were built in almost every city that would be set for one god.

The god would then be worshipped in that city.

If someone needed something from one of the gods in another city, they would travel to that city and would go into the temple and would worship and pray to the gods.

The temple was a place where statues of the gods would be and people could worship, pray and leave gifts in the temple.

The temple was taken care of by the priest and the priest had one of the most important jobs in the town.

Many ceremonies and festivals would take place outside of the temple and people would come together and worship, play music, dress up and have festivals for their god.



Ancient Greek Temples

- The Greeks built ordinary houses and shops, but their temples and other public buildings were magnificent.
- The temple had a special role in the ancient city. It was always a large building with a colossal statue of one of the Greek chief

deities, such as Zeus, Apollo, or Poseidon. The statue was located in the central room called cella.

- The temple interior was designed to make us feel we're in the presence of the god.
- Temples were usually parts of larger sanctuary complexes. One complex could have more than one temple.
- A temple, just as the statue of the deity within it, was built with the purpose of making the people feel both fear and respect.
- The largest and most famous temple in Athens was the Parthenon. It was built on the big hill of Acropolis, and it was dedicated to the goddess Athena.
- Another notable temple that unfortunately was not preserved was the temple of Artemis at Ephesus.
- The temples were made of marble, and then painted in bright colors. Details on the columns, the backgrounds, and the sculptures were painted as well.
- The ruins that we can see today are colourless, but in their best days those temples were all red, blue, yellow, and gold.