

## The Trojan War: A Very Short Introduction

By Eric H. Cline

### Questions for Thought and Discussion

- Did Homer write the *Iliad* and the *Odyssey*? Both? Neither?
- Who, or what, was Homer? Could he have been a woman? Could there have been more than one of him? Could it have been a profession rather than a person?
- What happened to all of the rest of the poems of the *Epic Cycle*? Why do we have only scraps of them left to us? Could we find more of them someday? If so, how?
- Why does Paris/Alexander have two names?
- Do you really think such a war would have been fought for ten years simply because one person was kidnapped? Or was there probably more to it than that?
- Does the *Iliad* reflect the Bronze Age, the Iron Age, or both?
- Are the Mycenaeans the Ahhiyawans? If not, then who are the Ahhiyawans?
- Is the Assuwan Rebellion an early Trojan War?
- Which level at Troy was Priam's? VI or VIIa?
- Was Troy VI destroyed by an earthquake or by humans?
- What was the Trojan Horse?
- Is Alaksandu of Wilusa the same as Alexander/Paris of (W)ilios?
- Do the Hittite treaties with Wilusa, esp. with Walmu, have any relevance to the Trojan War?
- Do you think that there was a Trojan War? Or were there many? Did Homer telescope centuries of fighting into a single epic example?
- Does the Trojan War still have relevance today? If so, why?
- Should the recent (2004) movie *Troy* have left out the gods and goddesses from the story? What did that do to the telling of the story?

### Other Books by Eric H. Cline

*The Oxford Handbook of the Bronze Age Aegean* (Oxford University Press, 2012)

(with Mark W. Graham) *Ancient Empires: From Mesopotamia to the Rise of Islam* (Cambridge University Press, 2011)

(with Gary M. Beckman and Trevor R. Bryce) *Writings from the Ancient World: The Ahhiyawa Texts* (Society of Biblical Literature, 2011)

(with Jill Rubalcaba) *Digging for Troy: From Homer to Hisarlik* (Charlesbridge Publishing, 2011)

(with David O'Connor) *Ramesses III: The Life and Times of Egypt's Last Hero* (University of Michigan Press, 2010)

*Biblical Archaeology: A Very Short Introduction* (Oxford University Press, 2009)

*From Eden to Exile: Unraveling Mysteries of the Bible* (National Geographic Society, 2008)

### Further Reading

Joachim Latacz, *Troy and Homer: Towards a Solution of an Old Mystery* (Oxford University Press, 2004)

Barry Strauss, *The Trojan War: A New History* (Simon & Schuster, 2006)

Carol G. Thomas and Craig Conant, *The Trojan War* (Greenwood Press, 2005)

Diane P. Thompson *The Trojan War: Literature and Legends from the Bronze Age to the Present* (McFarland, 2004)

Martin M. Winkler (Ed.), *Troy: From Homer's Iliad to Hollywood Epic* (Blackwell, 2007)

Michael Wood, *In Search of the Trojan War* 2nd ed. (University of California Press, 1996)