



## THE BRIDGE TO HOMER'S *ODYSSEY*: Mythology Reading 211-214

**Know** these helpful vocabulary words:

*sacrilege* = violation of what is sacred

- Not one Greek protested against the *sacrilege* (212).

*shroud* = a cloth to wrap the dead for cremation

- She told them that she could not marry until she had woven a very fine...*shroud* for Odysseus' father, the aged Laertes, against the day of his death ( 213).

*wrath* (n) = anger

*wrathful* (adj) = angry

- Athena's *wrath* was deep (212).
- After Troy fell, she [Athena] included him [Odysseus] with the others in her *wrathful* displeasure (213).

*perilous* = very dangerous

- Year after year he voyaged, hurried from one *perilous* adventure to another (213).

**FYI** 🐉 “lay violent hands on” = attempt to rape!

### ☐ **Comprehension: Type answers to all of these on separate sheet of paper.**

**Background on Odysseus – You may answer Questions 1-5 in 1-2 words.**

👤 1. Who is Odysseus's wife?

2. Who is Odysseus's son?

3. Who is Odysseus's father

🏰 4. What is the name of Odysseus's kingdom?

🕒 5. How long has Odysseus been away from his home (add length of war + total time he spent trying to get home after the war)?

**More questions – Answer these in full sentences.**

6. Before the Greeks left Troy, what exactly did they do that really displeased Athena?

7. How were the Greeks punished by Athena and Poseidon?

8. When Athena decides to forgive Odysseus and help him get home, who is the only deity to still be mad at Odysseus? (Hint: Athena waits until this deity is gone from Olympus before she asks Zeus to help Odysseus.)

9. What is the big problem that *Odysseus's wife and son* are facing when Athena decides to finally help Odysseus?

10. What is Odysseus's problem? Why can't *Odysseus* come home without Zeus's help? Who is holding him “prisoner”? How bad (or good) are Odysseus's living conditions? Give specifics.

11. When Athena visits Telemachus, what did she “advise him strongly” to do?

12. What disguise does Athena wear when she visits Ithaca?

13. What trick does Penelope use to temporarily stop the suitors from insisting that she pick one of them to marry? (Hint – it involves a *shroud*)

**Note** any questions you have at the bottom of your typed homework.