

ATLANTIS

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Atlantis is a legendary island mentioned in Plato's *Timaeus* and *Critias*. Both these works are monologues written about 360BC and deals with the nature of the physical world and the purpose of the universe. A distinction is made between the physical world, which will perish, and the eternal world.

In Plato's work, Atlantis was a mythical island (it did not exist) and was a fictional naval power which conquered much of Europe and Africa about 9600BC but, in a single day and night of misfortune, sank in the sea.

Plato had drawn on some historical events for his imaginary island of Atlantis such as the Trojan Wars of the 12th and 13th centuries BC and the Thera eruption, also known as the Santorini volcanic eruption in the Bronze Age. This was probably one of the most catastrophic events in the ancient world and innumerable stories have arisen about it ever since. But Atlantis was not a real island, not a real place. It is fictional.

Thera was in the Minoan civilisation which began in Crete in the Bronze Age (3000 BC to 1100 BC).

It is also said that Plato may have drawn on contemporary events such as the destruction of Helike in 373BC, or the failed Athenian invasion of Sicily in 415-413 BC.

The existence of Atlantis as a real location was taken up by spiritualists and mediums including the Russian Helena Blavatsky (1831-1861) who was the co-founder of the Theosophical Society which claims to treat everyone as equal, compare religions and the sciences and help people on their spiritual journey. But she was a fraud and found out to be so.

The word spiritual creates problems since the word spiritual has many meanings. It is the quest for God; it is the quest for Christ; it is the quest for self transformation of one's own spirit; it is the acceptance of spiritualism in which it is claimed that the dead can communicate with the living and so on. The word spiritual was used thousands of years ago to describe those who believed in the God of the Bible and in Jesus Christ as seen in the writings of the apostle Paul.

But to return to those who has hijacked this word. Blavatsky became a medium and held seances, was a rampant atheist and, as we have said, was proved to be a fraud. She was deranged and proved to be.

There is overwhelming and irrefutable evidence that Atlantis did not exist and therefore no evidence of its inhabitants, culture, social and religious beliefs although David Icke states that the religion of Atlantis was based on the Gospel of Heru. This depicts Jesus as an Ethiopian Hebrew, a descendant of the Hamitic tribe who was sent not only to fulfil the prophecies of the Jews but of his Ethiopian ancestors. As well as Jesus, other sons of Heru were resurrected from the dead.

In 1627, Francis Bacon asserted that Atlantis was a utopian society off the west of America and therefore in the Pacific Ocean. Some took its location further south and said it was an Aztec empire. Some assert that the Atlantians invented both gunpowder and the compass long before there was a written language. Others said that Atlantis was a world empire stretching from the Azores to the Bahamas and, therefore, of course, is a lost civilisation.

Erich Von Daniken believes Atlantis was a Mayan culture brought about by, or maintained by aliens who visited the earth in their spaceships and mated with the locals to produce a superior race. The Nazis, especially Himmler, believed that the pure Aryan race were descended from the Atlantians and this belief was part of the German philosophy which caused the Second World War.

It is said that Hitler also believed this and apparently was well into spiritualism and astrology stating that spirits in another dimension were leading him to establish the Third Reich.

All this about Atlantis is another example of Greek mythology. A myth is a made up story. It may have a moral purpose but the story itself is fiction as is the minotaur who is half man, half bull. And don't fly too close to the sun!

Greek mythology is fiction, often about fictitious gods and goddesses.

One of the many other evidences of Atlantis being a fictional island is that Plato says that this imaginary island was bigger than both Libya and Asia put together and it is implied that Atlantis was in the Mediterranean Sea since Athens fought against Atlantis and Athenians were Greek being Hellenistic and the inhabitants of Atlantis were also Hellenists.

In Plato's day, and thousands of year earlier, Libya and Asia existed, and just to mention three countries in Asia let us consider Turkey, India and China. Turkey was 301,382 square miles, India was 1,269,346 square miles and China was 3,696,000 square miles. The whole of Asia was 17,139,000 square miles.

The Mediterranean Sea was only 969,100 square miles. If Atlantis was bigger than Libya and Asia put together, as Plato says, it could not have fitted in the Mediterranean Sea.

And people says that Atlantis existed because Plato says so. But Plato presents it as a fictional island. It is not real. It does not exist.

A survey says that 72% agree that Atlantis exists. What they do not say is that this survey was of people who voted on line and that people who did not believe in Atlantis did not vote.

The debate continues as to the alleged location of Atlantis. Here are some of the theories:

It floated out of the Mediterranean as the existent island. How did it get pass Gibraltar, being in mind its size? It was an imaginary island is fiction by Plato!

That cannot be denied.

It sunk and floated under the sea to another location.

Atlantis is really Antarctica.

It is the Atlantic ocean somewhere between America and Africa.

It exists in a region of Mexico.

It lies off the coast of Cuba.

It is in the Bermuda Triangle hence the disasters in that area.

It is in the South China Sea.

It is somewhere in the Pacific Ocean.

It has been found in the Indian ocean. It has not. And how could an island as big as Asia and Libya combined be in the Indian Ocean?

There are people receiving money in large quantities to find Atlantis whereas that money could be put to better use such as the welfare of society. What money we waste!

But to return to the fictional story of Atlantis. It must be remembered that Plato was Hellenistic being a

Greek and, at his time and the time of Homer, Hesoid, Socrates and Virgil, the Greeks were immersed in Greek mythology.

Greek Mythology is the collection of myths and legends belonging to Greece and there was Roman Mythology as well.

Myths are stories about so-called superhuman beings of ancient and earlier times and myths are imaginary and/or fictitious.

Legends are stories handed down from earlier times which may be untrue. If a person is said to be a legend it is usually a person who wants to be regarded as famous and make a name for himself.

Mythology includes cultism. A cult is a type of religion or belief which appeals to a small group of people whose beliefs are unproven and contrary to common sense and/or traditional views.

As we have said, Icarus made himself wings and flew too close to the sun is a Greek myth. Do you believe this?

However, as stated before, Plato drew on historic events for the mythical island of Atlantis such as the Trojans wars and the Santorini volcanic eruption and the failed invasion of Scilly 400 years or so before Christ.

As Alan Cameron has said, "It is only in modern times that people have taken Atlantis seriously; no one did so in antiquity".

It was the spiritualists and psychics of the late nineteenth century that started this interest. If Atlantis sunk into the sea 9,000 or so years before Christ why no records or interest for 10 to 11 thousand years?

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