

# Cleanthes: Hymn to Zeus

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There are a few lines with doubtful words or even entire phrases. In the interest of cohesion, I have selected among the many scholarly attempts at repair, which are marked with either a crux (†) or angled brackets.

κύδιστ' ἀθανάτων, πολυώνυμε, παγκρατὲς αἰεὶ,  
Ζεῦ, φύσεως ἀρχηγέ, νόμου μέτα πάντα κυβερνῶν,  
χαῖρε· σὲ γὰρ πάντεσσι θέμις θνητοῖσι προσαυδᾶν.  
ἐκ σοῦ γὰρ γενόμεσθα † θεοῦ μίμημα λαχόντες  
5 μοῦνοι, ὅσα ζῶει τε καὶ ἔρπει θνήτ' ἐπὶ γαῖαν·  
τῷ σε καθυμνήσω, καὶ σὸν κράτος αἰὲν ἀείσω.  
σοὶ δὴ πᾶς ὅδε κόσμος, ἐλίσσόμενος περὶ γαῖαν,  
πείθεται, ἧ̃ κεν ἄγῃς, καὶ ἐκὼν ὑπὸ σεῖο κρατεῖται·

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<sup>1</sup>κύδιστος ἡ ὄν (ῶ) noblest, greatest. πολυώνυμος ὄν having many names. παγκρατῆς ἐς all-powerful.

<sup>2</sup>φύσις εως ἡ ὄν origin; nature, character. ἀρχηγός ὄν originating; leading; as n. founder, originator; in philosophy first cause, originating power. μέτα note accenting — it governs νόμου. κυβερνάω steer; guide; govern.

<sup>3</sup>πάντεσσι Epic = dat.pl.m. πᾶσι. θέμις ἰδος ἡ law, justice, right; with dat. + inf., it is right that... προσ-αυδάω address; speak (of).

<sup>4</sup>μίμημα τό anything imitated, copy. λαγχάνω λήχομαι ἔλαχον obtain by lot, win for oneself; of divine duties be assigned + acc. or gen.

<sup>5</sup>μοῦνοι Epic = μόνοι. ἔρπω move slowly; walk. γαῖα ἡ (Epic) earth; and again in l.7.

<sup>6</sup>τῷ here therefore. καθ-υμνέω sing of constantly. κράτος τό strength, might, power, esp. political power.

<sup>7</sup>σοὶ see πείθεται in the next line. ἐλίσσω ἐλίξω εἴλιξα spin, turn something around; mid. turn oneself around, rotate.

<sup>8</sup>ἧ̃ here of place, with subjunctive, wherever. κε(ν) Epic = ἄν. ἐκὼν οὔσα ὄν readily, willingly. σεῖο Epic = σοῦ. κρατέω be strong; rule over; seize, hold fast.

- τοῖον ἔχεις ὑποεργὸν ἀνικήτοις ἐνὶ χερσίν  
 10 ἀμφήκη πυρόεντ' ἀειζώντα κεραυνόν·  
 τοῦ γὰρ ὑπὸ πληγῆς φύσεως πάντ' ἔργα <τελεῖται>  
 ᾧ σὺ κατευθύνεις κοινὸν λόγον, ὃς διὰ πάντων  
 φοιτᾷ, μιγνύμενος μεγάλῳ μικροῖς τε φάεσσιν·  
 †ᾧ σὺ τόσος† γεγαῶς ὕπατος βασιλεὺς διὰ παντός.  
 15 οὐδέ τι γίγνεται ἔργον ἐπὶ χθονὶ σοῦ δίχα, δαῖμον,  
 οὔτε κατ' αἰθέριον θεῖον πόλον, οὔτ' ἐνὶ πόντῳ,  
 πλὴν ὅποσα ῥέζουσι κακοὶ σφετέραισιν ἀνοίαις.  
 ἀλλὰ σὺ καὶ τὰ περισσὰ ἐπίστασαι ἄρτια θεῖναι,  
 καὶ κοσμεῖν τᾶκοσμα, καὶ οὐ φίλα σοὶ φίλα ἐστίν.  
 20 ὧδε γὰρ εἰς ἔν πάντα συνήρμοκας ἐσθλὰ κακοῖσιν,  
 ὥσθ' ἕνα γίγνεσθαι πάντων λόγον αἰὲν ἑόντα,  
 ὃν φεύγοντες ἔῳσιν ὅσοι θνητῶν κακοὶ εἰσιν,  
 δύσμοροι, οἳ τ' ἀγαθῶν μὲν αἰεὶ κτῆσιν ποθέοντες

<sup>14</sup> ᾧ σὺ τόσος: Armin ὡς τόσος: ms.

<sup>9</sup> ὑποεργός ὄν rendering service, conducive to; agreeing with l.10 κεραυνόν. ἀνίκητος ὄν (τι) unconquerable, agreeing with χερσίν. ἐνὶ Epic = ἐν.

<sup>10</sup> ἀμφήκης ἐς two-edged, forked, with κεραυνόν. πυρόεις ἐσσα ἐν fiery. ἀειζώντων οὐσα ὄν (ᾱ) everliving. κεραυνός ὁ thunderbolt; the author seems to be pairing Zeus' traditional tool with the Stoic conception of fire (πυρόεντα) as the fundamental substance of the cosmos.

<sup>11</sup> τοῦ = κεραυνός. πλήγη ἢ Epic dat.pl. blow, strike. τελέω fulfil, accomplish.

<sup>12</sup> ᾧ = κεραυνός. κατ-ευθύνω (ῠ) make, keep straight; guide. κοινὸν λόγον universal reason. διὰ see l.13.

<sup>13</sup> δια-φοιτᾷ in tmesis, permeate + gen. μεγάλῳ μικροῖς τε both should be taken with φάεσσιν, but as separate things, the "great light" being the sun. φάος τό Epic dat.pl. light.

<sup>14</sup> τόσος ἡ ὄν so great, so much. γεγαῶς perf.act.part. nom.sg.m. of γίγνομαι. διὰ παντός for all (time).

<sup>15</sup> χθῶν ὀνός ἢ earth. δίχα adv. in two, apart; prep. apart from, without, often following its noun, as here. δαίμων ὀνος ὁ, ἢ voc. god, divinity.

<sup>16</sup> αἰθέριος (α) ὄν high in the air; celestial, heavenly. θεῖος α ὄν divine, godlike. πόλος ὁ pivot, axis; celestial sphere, vault of the sky. πόντος ὁ sea.

<sup>17</sup> πλὴν here conj., except. ὅποσος ἡ ὄν as much, how much. ῥέζω do, make, accomplish. σφέτερος α ὄν their (own). ἀνοία ἢ lack of understanding, folly.

<sup>18</sup> περισσός ἢ ὄν prodigious, remarkable; excessive, extravagant. ἄρτιος α ὄν perfect, complete, proper. θεῖναι aor.act.inf. of τίθημι, here make.

<sup>19</sup> κοσμέω set in order, prepare; adorn, dress. τᾶκοσμα = τὰ ἄκοσμα; ἄκοσμος ὄν disorderly. οὐ φίλα take this as a single unit.

<sup>20</sup> συν-αρμόζω join together, adapt, unite. ἐσθλός ἢ ὄν noble, good, worthy, fine.

<sup>21</sup> ὥσπερ in order to + inf. ἑόντα Epic pres.act.part. acc.sg.m. of εἰμί.

<sup>22</sup> ἔάω permit, allow; leave alone, be done with.

<sup>23</sup> δύσμορος ὄν ill-fated. ἀγαθῶν here good things, with κτῆσιν. κτῆσις ἐως ἢ acquisition, possession, holding. ποθέω long for, yearn for.

οὐτ' ἔσορῶσι θεοῦ κοινὸν νόμον οὔτε κλύουσιν,  
 25 ᾧ κεν πειθόμενοι σὺν νῶ βίον ἐσθλὸν ἔχοιεν·  
 αὐτοὶ δ' αὖθ' ὀρμῶσιν ἄνευ καλοῦ ἄλλος ἐπ' ἄλλα·  
 οἱ μὲν ὑπὲρ δόξης σπουδὴν δυσέριστον ἔχοντες,  
 οἱ δ' ἐπὶ κερδοσύνας τετραμμένοι οὐδενὶ κόσμῳ,  
 ἄλλοι δ' εἰς ἄνεσιν καὶ σώματος ἡδέα ἔργα.  
 30 <ἀλλὰ κακοῖς ἐπέκυρσαν> ἐπ' ἄλλοτε δ' ἄλλα φέρονται,  
 σπεύδοντες μάλα πάμπαν ἐναντία τῶνδε γενέσθαι.  
 ἀλλὰ Ζεῦ πάνδωρε, κελαινεφές, ἀργικέραυνε,  
 ἀνθρώπους ρύου <σύ γ' > ἀπειροσύνης ἀπὸ λυγρῆς,  
 ἦν σύ, πάτερ, σκέδασον ψυχῆς ἄπο, δὸς δὲ κυρῆσαι  
 35 γνώμης, ἧ πίσυρος σὺ δίκης μέτα πάντα κυβερνᾶς,  
 ὄφρ' ἂν τιμηθέντες ἀμειβώμεσθ' ἀ σε τιμῆ,  
 ὑμνοῦντες τὰ σὰ ἔργα διηνεκές, ὡς ἐπέοικε  
 θνητὸν ἔοντ', ἐπεὶ οὔτε βροτοῖς γέρας ἄλλο τι μεῖζον  
 οὔτε θεοῖς, ἧ κοινὸν αἰεὶ νόμον ἐν δίκῃ ὑμνεῖν.

<sup>26</sup> ἄνευ καλοῦ: mss. ἄνευ νόου Wilamowitz.

<sup>24</sup> ἔσ-οράω see, look at. κοινὸν νόμον see l.12. κλύω hear, perceive; pay attention to.

<sup>25</sup> βίος ὁ (mode of) life. νόος ὁ contracted dat.sg. mind, sense; σὺν νῶ wisely.

<sup>26</sup> αὐτε again; furthermore. ὀρμάω set in motion, urge on; rush. καλοῦ here an abstract noun. ἄλλος ἐπ' ἄλλα "each after other things."

<sup>27</sup> ὑπὲρ here, for, on behalf of, in the name of. δόξα ἡ opinion; reputation. σπουδὴ ἡ haste, speed, effort. δυσέριστος ὄν contentious, full of strife.

<sup>28</sup> κερδοσύνη ἡ cunning, craft; gain. τρέπω turn; pass. turn oneself to. οὐδενὶ κόσμῳ dat. of manner.

<sup>29</sup> εἰς picking up l.28 τετραμμένοι. ἄνεσις εἰς ἡ loosening, relaxation; indulgence, license.

<sup>30</sup> ἐπι-κύρω (ῶ) fall in with + dat. ἐπι-φέρω in tmesis, be eager for, rush after; with ἄλλοτε δ' ἄλλα "sometimes to this, sometimes to that."

<sup>31</sup> σπεύδω urge on, press on; promote; here with acc. + inf. πάμπαν wholly, altogether. ἐναντίος α ὄν opposite, facing; reverse, contradictory.

<sup>32</sup> πάνδωρος ὄν dispenser of all. κελαινεφής ἐς wrapped in clouds. ἀργικέραυνος ὄν having bright lightning.

<sup>33</sup> ρύομαι (ῶ) guard, protect; save. ἀπειροσύνη ἡ ignorance, inexperience. λυγρός ἄ ὄν baneful, mournful, miserable.

<sup>34</sup> σκεδάννυμι σκεδῶ ἐσκέδασα aor.imp.2sg. scatter, disperse. δός = aor.imp. δίδωμι, here allow, grant. κυρέω hit the mark, reach, obtain.

<sup>35</sup> γνώμη ἡ thought, judgement, intelligence. πίσυρος ὄν trusting in, relying on.

<sup>36</sup> ὄφρα Epic conj. so that. τιμέω aor.pass.part. nom.pl.m. honor. ἀμειβομαι Epic mid.1pl. change with someone; answer in words or in kind.

<sup>37</sup> ὑμνέω sing, praise. διηνεκής ἐς continuous, perpetual, here adverbial. ἐπ-έοικα be fit, proper, appropriate; normally this would take dat. + inf. or acc. + inf.; the acc. + pcpl. in l.38 is a bit unexpected.

<sup>38</sup> ἔοντα Epic for ὄντα. γέρας τό gift of honor; privilege, prerogative; γέρας ἄλλο τι "some other honor." μεῖζον comparative of μέγας.

<sup>39</sup> ἧ than, with l.38 μεῖζον.