

October, 18 2006

Humanities

10/10

Ode to Man Response

The Ode to Man chorus in the play Antigone is a very important part of the play. I think that it may also be the most important and most difficult chorus throughout the play. The Ode to Man chorus is mainly about the change Man/ society had gone through over the years. "Leads now to good, now to evil. When laws of man and god are kept, then his city stands with pride. When man betrays both god and man, then his city falls to shame. He will never share my hearth. He will never share my thought." I think that this quote best represents time passing. This quote is saying if Man (society) obeys the laws that the king makes, and the laws that are held by the gods, then this city will be strong and is an ideal city. But if Man (society) disregards the laws made by the king and the gods then the city will fall and be disorderly. I felt that this quote is significant to the play Antigone because it shows the transition between how it was when Kreon first became king and how it will be after. I think that it is also significant because it kind of leads up to what will happen with Antigone. When she buries her brother she is said to be breaking the laws held by the gods and the king. I also think that the Ode to Man chorus is mainly about how strong society is. "Many are the world's but none more wondrous than man With excelling sharpness of mind he snares whole nations of birds, takes captive tribes of wild beast, and catches in woven nets the brood of the ocean's deep. And with his art he masters the lion whose lair is the mountain, and tames the shaggy-maned horse, and the unbroken mountain bull, with the powerful yoke of his will." In this quote

say more about that. really great idea that needs to be expanded.

they are describing how strong man is by using animals. They are basically saying that man is so strong that he can do all of these things, which are above and beyond. I feel that this part of the chorus is also very significant because if man is strong, and man makes up the society, then the city will be strong as a whole. When I read this quote it made me think about Antigone. This quote is talking about man being so strong, and well skilled. Well that's what Antigone is doing, she's standing up for what she believes in, but when a woman decides to be a strong part of society she gets punished for it.

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Such great ideal,
but each time you only
explain in one sentence.
Let's work on elaborating
& developing your ideas.