



All of Atlantis' power comes from my domain : black solid orichalc from ancient woods ; liquid orichalc pumped up from deeper forests where ancient seas rotted them ; gases that escaped and are pumped out with toxic liquids.

And not just orichalc, but minerals formed in the furnace of my realm, which are exploited to make those weapons and machines that Hephaestus has condemned.

But I do not complain about the wars and destruction wreaked by Atlantis and her allies. The dead are welcome here in Tartarus, and my nephew Ares is quite right to praise them for their skills in warfare. Artemis and Hestia complain that there are too many mortals and that Gaia suffers from their overcrowded and polluted cities, their destruction of forests, fields and wild creatures. I say let the Atlanteans continue to destroy their enemies and perhaps many of themselves by their unhealthy greed and disregard for their own environment.

I welcome it if millions must die, drowned as they flee from war across stormy seas, or killed in civil wars encouraged by those in Atlantis who supply their weapons. Why send a flood to destroy them and many besides, when they can be left to kill themselves, by the abuse of Gaia's mantle, or by unleashing the power of their ultimate weapon described by Hephaestus, stolen from Pluto and Uranus over which they seem to have no control.

