

5. Precise discussions of Homer's treatment of chariots.

Wace and Stubbing, A Companion to Homer 521, 540-541

3.41-27¹ xx-15b Lorimer, H., Homer and the Monuments, 328 Homer's treatment of the chariot is strictly "Mycenaean"; in war and racing alike only a pair of horses is used.

3.41-15⁸ xx-11b Myres, John L, Homer and His Critics p. 186 War-chariots were used both in the Bronze Age and in the eighth century. The pictorial evidence for tactics is not conclusive, but there is nothing on eight-century vases inconsistent with Homeric fighting; men and chariots appear together, but no fighter ever attacks from a chariot and no chariot charge is ever shown . . . Races and processions of chariots and foot-soldiers at funerals are certainly eighth century, and the vividness and consistency of Homeric narrative are themselves evidence that the fighting described was contemporary. The Mycenaeans, on the other hand, were in touch with peoples who charged in their chariots . . . and the Hittites in particular mounted spearmen.

3.41-17⁵ xx-12c Carpenter, Rhys, Folk Tale, Fiction and Saga in the Homeric Epics, p.33 Homer did not know what battle-chariots were for, since his own community did not use them. Hence he depicts them preposterously as mere means of local transportation to and from the actual fight . . .

3.41-24⁷ Finley, M. I., The World of Odysseus (New York: Viking Press) 1965, p. 39-40 A neat little touch is provided by the battle chariots. Homer had heard of them, but he did not really visualize what one did with chariots in a war. So his heroes normally drove from their tents a mile or less away, carefully dismounted, and then proceeded to battle on foot.