The Foundations of Greek Civilization Greek civilization, one of the most significant in world history, laid the foundation for many aspects of modern Western society. The contributions of Greek civilization were immense and included advancements in democracy, philosophy, art, literature, and science. The civilization was notable for its powerful city-states, such as Athens and Sparta, which offered unique political structures and values—democracy in Athens and military discipline in Sparta. Greek myths weren't just entertaining tales; they played an essential role in religion and daily life, guiding the Greeks in understanding their world and behavior. The Greeks honored these deities through rituals, sacrifices, and festivals, believing that pleasing the gods would ensure their favor These myths involved gods, heroes, and mythic creatures, and served as a means of transmitting moral lessons and cultural .values. 2.3