

Tiresias, the most famous prophet of ancient Greek mythology, is probably best known today for his part in the story of Oedipus, King of Thebes. As a result of displeasing the gods he was struck blind and changed into a woman for seven years, then back to a man. He was also given the gift of seven lifespans. These experiences gave him extraordinary depth of perception from all perspectives, and though his prophecies were often very brief and sometimes enigmatic, they were never wrong. As usual with prophetic figures, it was (and still is) up to the people consulting the prophet to figure out what he meant and how to translate the prophetic words into action.