

Thor

The Thunderer – The Skyfather – The Red-Bearded – The Defender of Midgard

Thor is the god of thunder, lightning, storms, strength, courage, protection, and righteous force. He is the defender of gods and mortals, the breaker of monsters, and the guardian of those who stand beneath the open sky.

Thor is not the god of calm weather. Storms are disruptive, dangerous, and sometimes destructive. His worshippers do not deny this. They believe that power must be answered with responsibility, and that anyone who calls upon the storm must be prepared to shelter those caught within it.

Thor's storms may destroy, but they also break oppressive heat, bring rain to the thirsty earth, reveal hidden dangers with lightning, and remind mortals that the world is larger than their plans.

Portfolio and Names

Thor's portfolio includes thunder, lightning, storms, strength, courage, protection, travel, battle against monsters, oaths, hospitality, and the defence of ordinary people.

He is known as the Thunderer, the Skyfather, the Red-Bearded, the Defender of Midgard, the Stormlord, and the Hammer-Bearer. His most famous weapon is the axe JarnBjörn, though stories differ on whether it was forged by dwarves, shaped by the first thunderbolt, or gifted to Thor by the earth itself.

Thor is not the only god associated with storms, nor does every storm originate with him. Some are natural events, some are caused by other powers, and some are the direct manifestation of Thor's will. His faithful consider this distinction important. Storm magic is not a harmless display of divine power. Every storm has consequences beyond the battlefield.

Who Prayed

Thor is prayed to by sailors, farmers, miners, travellers, warriors, hunters, smiths, labourers, and those who live beneath dangerous skies. He is especially honoured by people who protect others through strength, courage, or practical skill.

His worshippers include those who face monsters, tyranny, wilderness, and natural disaster. Many families pray to him during thunderstorms, while others invoke him before beginning dangerous

work or travelling through the mountains.

Thor's faith also attracts people who believe strength has meaning only when it is used in defence of others. A person who possesses power but refuses responsibility is not considered worthy of Thor's admiration.

When They Prayed

Thor is prayed to during storms, before battles, before long journeys, and when confronting a powerful enemy. His followers may call upon him when lifting a heavy burden, entering a dangerous forest, protecting a settlement, or beginning work that demands courage.

Prayers are often offered at dawn, before a journey, and at the evening meal. During a storm, a household may ask Thor to turn aside the worst of the wind and rain. Afterward, the same household is expected to help repair damaged homes, clear roads, and shelter those affected.

A storm caused by Thor is not automatically considered a blessing. His followers believe that divine power must still be respected, managed, and answered for.

Holy Day and Devotion

Thor's principal holy days vary between regions, but most Thorists celebrate the **First Thunder**, marking the first major storm of spring or the return of thunder after winter. The occasion is usually marked by feasting, contests of strength, offerings to the sky, and the repair of communal tools, bridges, roofs, and roads.

Devotion to Thor is shown through courage and usefulness. A worshipper may defend a stranger, keep an oath, repair storm damage, share food with travellers, or stand between the helpless and danger.

Thor's faithful are expected to accept the consequences of their strength. Those who use storm magic are particularly responsible for helping communities recover from flooding, wind damage, fire, and other destruction that follows.

Tenets

Thor's faithful are expected to be strong enough to protect others, brave enough to face danger, and humble enough to recognise the damage their power can cause.

They must not use strength to bully the weak, abandon those in danger, or break an oath for personal convenience. Cowardice is not the same as prudence, but refusing to act when action could save lives is considered a serious failure.

Those who wield storm magic must take responsibility for its consequences. They should avoid needless destruction, warn those who may be endangered, and assist with relief and repairs after a storm. Calling lightning into a crowded place, damaging homes without necessity, or treating collateral harm as unimportant are violations of Thor's trust.

Thor does not require his followers to win every battle. He requires them to meet danger honestly and to rise again when they are thrown down.

Ways of Praying

Thor's prayers are often spoken aloud, with raised voices, lifted weapons, ringing bells, or blows upon anvils and shields. His followers may pray beneath the open sky, beside a forge, at a campfire, or before beginning a difficult task.

Common offerings include food, mead, ironwork, weapons, tools, and the repair of something damaged. A person who clears a road after a storm or rebuilds a neighbour's roof may be considered to have offered a more meaningful prayer than someone who merely recites words.

The Open Halls of Thunder teach that storm magic should be accompanied by service. The power to summon lightning is a gift, but sheltering those harmed by the storm is a duty.

Shrines and Temples

Thor's temples are known as **Open Halls of Thunder**. They are places of worship, hospitality, study, debate, and practical aid. Their doors are traditionally open to travellers, refugees, pilgrims, and people of other earth-focused faiths.

The Halls commonly contain mead halls, guest rooms, libraries, smithies, training yards, and large open courtyards where rain and sunlight can reach the worshippers. Many maintain outreach missions called **Stormward Sanctuaries**, which shelter people displaced by storms and help repair the damage afterward.

The most celebrated of these is [[Skyfather's Hall]], while smaller examples like [[Skallheim Hall]] bare some reknown.

Clergy and Organization

Thor's priests are commonly called **Thunderers**, **Stormkeepers**, or **Keepers of the Hall**. Senior clergy may bear titles such as High Keeper, Stormwarden, or Voice of the Sky.

The Open Halls of Thunder are independent but united by shared laws and customs. They cooperate in matters of doctrine, storm research, disaster relief, and the training of clerics and paladins. Their organisation is deliberately open, allowing Thorists and members of other faiths to debate, study, and learn together.

The Stormward Sanctuaries form the charitable arm of this wider movement. They provide shelter, food, medical aid, and assistance with rebuilding after severe weather. Their work is widely respected, even among those who distrust storm magic.

Church Character

Thor's faith is loud, direct, practical, and welcoming. It values strength without worshipping cruelty, courage without demanding recklessness, and celebration without forgetting responsibility.

Thorists may disagree about whether a particular storm was natural, divine, or caused by mortal magic. They are less divided about what must happen afterward. The hungry must be fed, the displaced must be sheltered, and the broken must be repaired.

Their faith is not concerned only with controlling storms. It is concerned with learning how to live responsibly beneath them.

In Summary

Thor is the power of the storm and the hand that raises the hammer against those who would prey upon the helpless. He is strength used in defence, courage exercised under pressure, and responsibility accepted after the lightning fades.

And when the thunder has passed, Thor expects his followers to remain.

"If you call the storm, stand ready to shelter those caught within it."

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