

**~ASHTORETH (16)**  
**(Ash'to-reth)**

- A goddess of the Canaanites, considered to be the wife of Baal. **Ashtoreth** is often represented as a nude female with rudely exaggerated sex organs.
- The worship of this goddess was widespread among various peoples of antiquity, and the name **Ashtoreth** was common in one form or another. The Greek name is **Astarte**, from which the English term of **Easter** comes along with the **egg hunts and other fertility practices**. Among the Philistines, **Ashtoreth** was evidently viewed as a goddess of war, as is indicated by the fact that the armor of defeated King Saul was placed in the temple of the goddess.