

## ~ASSHUR 2 (20) (As'shur)

- The foremost divinity of the Assyrians, their god of military prowess, to whom this warlike people prayed for aid. **Asshur** was a sort of **deified patriarch**, and in venerating him, the **Assyrians** may actually have worshiped their ancestor, **Asshur**, the son of Shem. The name **Asshur** is incorporated in many **Assyrian** names, such as those of **Esar-haddon** and **Ashurbanipal**.
- The false god **Asshur** was believed to be the chief protector of the **Assyrians**, being represented in their art by the winged sun disk. It was in their god **Asshur's** name and with his approval, indicated by favorable omens, that **Assyrian** troops entered battle, carrying his sacred symbol into the fray. Their kings ascribed victories to the help of **Asshur**.

**See Also ASSYRIA**