



THE TRUTH ABOUT GODS AND GODDESSES

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There seem to be many misconceptions regarding some commonly known Gods and Goddesses. I have seen their names incorrectly spelt, their siblings and parents incorrectly quoted and their duties completely misinterpreted. So, let's get to the bottom of it, shall we? Read on...

● Apollo:

The Greek God *Apollo* was the son of the deities *Zeus* and *Leto*. He had a twin sister named *Artemis*. *Apollo* was also called the God of Light and after the 5th Century BC, was closely linked to the sun god, *Helios* and the Egyptian *Ra*. Ruler over poetry, music, arts, medicine, prophecy, law and philosophy and portrayed as a God of Perfection, *Apollo* was mainly worshipped by the people of Delphi.

● Anubis:

Anubis or *An-pu*, is an Egyptian god, depicted with the head of a jackal and the body of a man. *Anubis* was a guide to the dead in the underworld; his task being to bring them to bring them to the starry kingdom of *Osiris* in the sky. He was the protector of the dead from the *Eater of the Dead*. This is a similar belief to those of the Shamanic people - that a soul can be eaten and thereby destroyed. *Anubis* was the son of *Nephthys*, *Isis*'s sister. Who fathered *Anubis* is still a mystery, with some sources claiming that it was *Osiris*, husband of *Isis*; or *Set*, husband of *Nephthys*, his mother.

Another interesting thing about *Anubis*, is that he is the opener of the gates or roads to the north and is not to be confused with a similar God called *Up-Uaut* who is the opener of the gates or roads to the south, and is also known as *The Opener of the Ways*. *Anubis* was also an excellent embalmer, having embalmed the body of *Osiris* in preparation for his funeral ritual and also comforting his mother and auntie.

● Athena:

There is a strange tale to how *Athena* came into being. She was thought to have sprung from the forehead of the God *Zeus*. In magic, this would be considered a *thought-form*. Perhaps she was a concept originally similar to the Egyptian *Maat*. In any case, she was an Olympian goddess who ruled over war and peace. She guarded the cities, and was particularly popular as a guardian to the city of Athens. *Athena* was a virgin who was postulated to have powers over wisdom and the arts. The Roman version of this Goddess was *Minerva*.

● Aphrodite:

From ancient Greece, *Aphrodite* is the sister of *Artemis* and *Apollo*. There are various accounts of her birth. One account proposes that she was manifested out of sea foam; the other account simply places her as the daughter of *Zeus*. *Aphrodite* was promiscuous, having children to many different gods. The goddesses, *Ishtar*, *Astarte* and the Roman, *Venus* were all extremely similar to the Greek *Aphrodite* and are closely connected.

● Hathor:

Hathor is also called *Athor* and *Athyr*, and existed prior to *Isis*. *Hathor* was a great mother goddess of the Ancient people of Egypt. From Archaic and predynastic times; *Hathor* was the goddess of love and pleasure, and was the *Lady of Heaven* and of the Underworld, who also rules over the Moon, the east, west

and agriculture. She is depicted as a woman with the head of a cow, and later, as a broad-faced woman with a pleasant expression.

● Horus:

There are various forms of *Horus*, meaning *son of god*. First of all, there is *Horus the Elder* (*Heru*), depicted as the son of *Ra* and *Nut*, (brother to *Set*, *Osiris*, *Isis* and *Nephthys*). Then *Isis* and *Osiris* had a son and their son was named *Horus*, often referred to in texts as *Horus the Child* (also *Horus the younger*) and in some artwork, being portrayed as such. *Set* was jealous of *Osiris* and wanted his kingdom, to take over his position. Since *Isis* and *Osiris* had produced no son, *Set* planned to kill *Osiris* and thereby claim his position and kingdom. *Set* succeeded in murdering *Osiris*, but the Goddess *Isis* according to some legends, was already pregnant, and according to other legends, she reconstructed the body of her husband and coupled with him, hence falling pregnant with him, it was *Horus the Child* who later challenged and defeated the evil *Set*, in the most popular legends. *Horus the Child* became the more popular of all of the 'Horus legends'. All the other versions of *Horus* merged into this one.

Horus represented the rising sun. In the Egyptian king-making ritual and process, the new king, after consulting with *Osiris* and completing the ritual, was deemed to become the earthly incarnation of the Son of God, *Horus*. Therein, kings are often referred to in ancient writings as *The Horus* meaning the incarnation of *Horus*, physically, on earth. When a king passed away, his soul merged with *Osiris* and his existing son became the next *Horus*. Another interesting aspect to this deity is that he was the *God of the North*. Depicted by the head of a falcon, *Horus* was purported to have lost an eye in battle with *Set*. The eyes of *Horus* are often referred to as the sun and the moon, in which the eye is lost during an eclipse, to the *black-hog* or *God of Night*, *Set*.