**Dis-ME-**

**Western Asiatic Syro-Hititte Figurines 1180-700 BCE**

**Depicting Asherah (Hebrew: אֲשֵׁרָה‎‎) the Israelite Goddess ofFertility**

**Asherah is identified as the queen consort of the Sumerian god Anu, the Ugaritic El, and Yahweh, the god of Israel and Judah. Yahweh commands the destruction of her shrines so as to maintain purity of worship to Himself (Deuteronomy 12: 3-4).**

**Saul M. Olyan, Asherah and the cult of Yahweh in Israel. NY: Scholars Pr., 1988, p. 79.**