



Ares

Ares, the son of Zeus and Hera, is the god of war. Zeus and Hera hated their son for he was murderous and bloodstained. Although he is the god of war, he is known as a **coward**. He bellows with pain and flees when wounded in battle. His bird is the vulture and his animal is the dog.

Ares does not appear in many Greek myths, but one is greatly known as an account of Aphrodite's **adultery**. Although Aphrodite is married to Hephaestus, the god of fire, **lameness**, and ugliness, she cheats on him throughout and even after the marriage with Ares. Aphrodite had four sons and one daughter with Ares. One of those children is Eros (Cupid), the god of love. Hephaestus knew about Aphrodite and Ares' **affair** and tried to catch them in the act. He crafted a trap of unbreakable chains and set them about their bed. He told Aphrodite that was going out of town for some time and that he would be back soon. He appeared to leave, but really stayed back to see if his trap would work. When it did, Aphrodite and Ares were trapped. Poseidon begged Hephaestus to let them go, and with that Hephaestus released the lovers. They left in a hurry and soon went back to their **deceitful** act.

Coward: lacking courage, very fearful or timid.

Adultery: Voluntary cheating on your husband/wife.

Lameness: Crippled or physically disabled

Affair: A secret matter, usually unlawful

Deceitful: misleading; deceptive