

[C-1] Possible Dinosaurs in The Bible

{updated 11/25/14}

The following animals variously translated as "leviathan", and "dragon" are sometimes translated as "serpent" or "jackal", but no one knows for sure what they were. In order to show the confusion over the animals I've printed out verses from the New International Version and the King James Version. Although I normally used the NIV in the past myself, the King James version makes the distinction between a serpent (a snake) which we know and the "dragon" which we don't know. The NIV even translates the "dragon" as a "jackal" (which is a hyena) in the Nehemiah passage and others. Apparently the translators of the NIV were not consistent in their translation of these unknown animals. It is the conviction of this writer that dinosaurs {referred to in folk lore as dragons} roamed the earth probably as recently as the middle ages and that this is the source for the legends about the knights in shining armor slaying the mighty dragons.

In the Revelation Satan is referred to as the Serpent and Dragon. (Rev. 20:2) The description of an animal given in Job does not fit anything we know of today, but it very definitely is an animal which found its way into many foke lore and legends as recently as the middle ages. From Job's account, the animal described may have been warm blooded, with a higher body temperature than we have. There is no way anyone can say that dinosaurs were cold blooded animals! We have no way of knowing. It is usually assumed they were cold blooded, because they resemble reptiles in appearance. In addition in the book of Jonah we are told that Jonah was swallowed by a great fish, not a whale as we are often told. It could have been a whale, but in reality, we don't know what it was.

JOB 41:1-34 (NIV)

1 "Can you pull in the leviathan with a fishhook or tie down his tongue with a rope? 2 Can you put a cord through his nose or pierce his jaw with a hook? 3 Will he keep begging you for mercy? Will he speak to you with gentle words? 4 Will he make an agreement with you for you to take him as your slave for life? 5 Can you make a pet of him like a bird or put him on a leash for your girls? 6 Will traders barter for him? Will they divide him up among the merchants? 7 Can you fill his hide with harpoons or his head with fishing spears? 8 If you lay a hand on him, you will remember the struggle and never do it again! 9 Any hope of subduing him is false; the mere sight of him is overpowering. 10 No one is fierce enough to rouse him. Who then is able to stand against me? 11 Who has a claim against me that I must pay? Everything under heaven belongs to me. 12 "I will not fail to speak of his limbs, his strength and his graceful form. 13 Who can strip off his outer coat? Who would approach him with a bridle? 14 Who dares open the doors of his mouth, ringed about with his fearsome teeth? 15 His back has rows of shields tightly sealed together; 16 each is so close to the next that no air can pass between. 17 They are joined fast to one another; they cling together and cannot be parted. 18 His snorting throws out flashes of light; his eyes are like the rays of dawn. 19 Firebrands stream from his mouth; sparks of fire shoot out. 20 Smoke pours from his nostrils as from a boiling pot over a fire of reeds. 21 His breath sets coals ablaze, and flames dart from his mouth. 22 Strength resides in his neck; dismay goes before him. 23 The folds of his flesh are tightly joined; they are firm and immovable. 24 His chest is hard as rock, hard as a lower millstone. 25 When he rises up, the mighty are terrified; they retreat before his thrashing. 26 The sword that reaches him has no effect, nor does the spear or the dart or the javelin. 27 Iron he treats like straw and bronze like rotten wood. 28 Arrows do not make him flee; slingstones are like chaff to him. 29 A club seems to him but a piece of straw; he laughs at the rattling of the lance. 30 His undersides are jagged potsherds, leaving a trail in the mud like a threshing sledge. 31 He makes the depths churn like a boiling caldron and stirs up the sea like a pot of ointment. 32 Behind him he leaves a glistening wake; one would think the deep had white hair. 33 Nothing on earth is his equal-- a creature without fear. 34 He looks down on all that are haughty; he is king over all that are proud." (NIV)

JOB 41:1-34 (KJV)

1 Canst thou draw out leviathan with an hook? or his tongue with a cord which thou lettest down? 2 Canst thou put an hook into his nose? or bore his jaw through with a thorn? 3 Will he make many supplications unto thee? will he speak soft words unto thee? 4 Will he make a covenant with thee? wilt thou take him for a servant for ever? 5 Wilt thou play with him as with a bird? or wilt thou bind him for thy maidens? 6 Shall the companions make a banquet of him? shall they part him among the merchants? 7 Canst thou fill his skin with barbed irons? or his head with fish spears? 8 Lay thine hand upon him, remember the battle, do no more. 9 Behold, the hope of him is in vain: shall not one be cast down even at the sight of him? 10 None is so fierce that dare stir him up: who then is able to stand before me? 11 Who hath prevented me, that I should repay him? Whatsoever is under the whole heaven is mine. 12 I will not conceal his parts, nor his power, nor his comely proportion. 13 Who can discover the face of his garment? or who can come to him with his double bridle? 14 Who can open the doors of his face? his teeth are terrible round about. 15 His scales are his pride, shut up together as with a close seal. 16 One is so near to another, that no air can come between them. 17 They are joined one to another, they stick together, that they cannot be sundered. 18 By his neesings a light doth shine, and his eyes are like the eyelids of the morning. 19 Out of his mouth go burning lamps, and sparks of fire leap out. 20 Out of his nostrils goeth smoke, as out of a seething pot or caldron. 21 His breath kindleth coals, and a flame goeth out of his mouth. 22 In his neck remaineth strength, and sorrow is turned into joy before him. 23 The flakes of his flesh are joined together: they are firm in themselves; they cannot be moved. 24 His heart is as firm as a stone; yea, as hard as a piece of the nether millstone. 25 When he raiseth up himself, the mighty are afraid: by reason of breakings they purify themselves. 26 The sword of him that layeth at him cannot hold: the spear, the dart, nor the habergeon. 27 He esteemeth iron as straw, and brass as rotten wood. 28 The arrow cannot make him flee: slingstones are turned with him into stubble. 29 Darts are counted as stubble: he laugheth at the shaking of a spear. 30 Sharp stones are under him: he spreadeth sharp pointed things upon the mire. 31 He maketh the deep to boil like a pot: he maketh the sea like a pot of ointment. 32 He maketh a path to shine after him; one would think the deep to be hoary. 33 Upon earth there is not his like, who is made without fear. 34 He beholdeth all high things: he is a king over all the children of pride. (KJV)

IS 27:1

In that day, the LORD will punish with his sword, his fierce, great and powerful sword, Leviathan the gliding serpent, Leviathan the coiling serpent; he will slay the monster of the sea. (NIV)

IS 17:1

The burden of Damascus. Behold, Damascus is taken away from being a city, and it shall be a ruinous heap. (KJV)

PS 74:14

It was you who crushed the heads of Leviathan and gave him as food to the creatures of the desert. (NIV)

PS 74:14

Thou breakest the heads of leviathan in pieces, and gavest him to be meat to the people inhabiting the wilderness. (KJV)

PS 104:26

There the ships go to and fro, and the leviathan, which you formed to frolic there. (NIV)

PS 104:26

There go the ships: there is that leviathan, whom thou hast made to play therein. (KJV)

NEH 2:13

By night I went out through the Valley Gate toward the Jackal Well and the Dung Gate, examining the walls of Jerusalem, which had been broken down, and its gates, which had been destroyed by fire. (NIV)

NEH 2:13

And I went out by night by the gate of the valley, even before the dragon well, and to the dung port, and viewed the walls of Jerusalem, which were broken down, and the gates thereof were consumed with fire. (KJV)

PS 91:13

You will tread upon the lion and the cobra; you will trample the great lion and the serpent. (NIV)

PS 91:13

Thou shalt tread upon the lion and adder: the young lion and the dragon shalt thou trample under feet. (KJV)

IS 51:9

Awake, awake! Clothe yourself with strength, O arm of the LORD; awake, as in days gone by, as in generations of old. Was it not you who cut Rahab to pieces, who pierced that monster through? (NIV)

IS 51:9

Awake, awake, put on strength, O arm of the LORD; awake, as in the ancient days, in the generations of old. Art thou not it that hath cut Rahab, and wounded the dragon? (KJV)

JER 51:34

"Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon has devoured us, he has thrown us into confusion, he has made us an empty jar. Like a serpent he has swallowed us and filled his stomach with our delicacies, and then has spewed us out. (NIV)

JER 51:34

Nebuchadrezzar the king of Babylon hath devoured me, he hath crushed me, he hath made me an empty vessel, he hath swallowed me up like a dragon, he hath filled his belly with my delicacies, he hath cast me out. (KJV)

EZEK 29:3

Speak to him and say: `This is what the Sovereign LORD says: ``I am against you, Pharaoh king of Egypt, you great monster lying among your streams. You say, "The Nile is mine; I made it for myself." (NIV)

EZEK 29:3

Speak, and say, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I am against thee, Pharaoh king of Egypt, the great dragon that lieth in the midst of his rivers, which hath said, My river is mine own, and I have made it for myself. (KJV)

DT 32:33

Their wine is the venom of serpents, the deadly poison of cobras. (NIV)

DT 32:33

Their wine is the poison of dragons, and the cruel venom of asps. (KJV)

IS 34:13

Thorns will overrun her citadels, nettles and brambles her strongholds. She will become a haunt for jackals, a home for owls. (NIV)

IS 34:13

And thorns shall come up in her palaces, nettles and brambles in the fortresses thereof: and it shall be an habitation of dragons, and a court for owls. (KJV)

JER 9:11

"I will make Jerusalem a heap of ruins, a haunt of jackals; and I will lay waste the towns of Judah so no one can live there." (NIV)

JER 9:11

And I will make Jerusalem heaps, and a den of dragons; and I will make the cities of Judah desolate, without an inhabitant. (KJV)

JER 51:37

Babylon will be a heap of ruins, a haunt of jackals, an object of horror and scorn, a place where no one lives. (NIV)

JER 51:37

And Babylon shall become heaps, a dwelling place for dragons, an astonishment, and an hissing, without an inhabitant. (KJV)

MIC 1:8

Because of this I will weep and wail; I will go about barefoot and naked. I will howl like a jackal and moan like an owl. (NIV)

MIC 1:8

Therefore I will wail and howl, I will go stripped and naked: I will make a wailing like the dragons, and mourning as the owls. (KJV)

MAL 1:3

but Esau I have hated, and I have turned his mountains into a wasteland and left his inheritance to the desert jackals." (NIV)

MAL 1:3

And I hated Esau, and laid his mountains and his heritage waste for the dragons of the wilderness. (KJV)

These may not be all the passages which contain unknown animals, but these are the ones I found with the help of my computer.