

Leviathan

Passage: Job 41

In this passage God is describing to Job a large reptilian beast named Leviathan. In the last verse God states that Leviathan is the king over the children of pride. Pride is an issue of the spirit. John 3:6 tells us that Spirit gives birth to spirit. By associating Leviathan's offspring with a spiritual issue, God tells us that this enemy is a spiritual enemy.

What do we know about Leviathan?

He is characterized as a serpent.

Spirits are often associated with an animal or person who's traits or actions they exhibit.

- ◆ **Isaiah 27:1 HCSB** *On that day the LORD with His harsh, great, and strong sword, will bring judgment on Leviathan, the fleeing serpent--Leviathan, the twisting serpent. He will slay the monster that is in the sea.*

He is an enemy of the people of God.

He is at war with us

In Genesis 3:15, God addresses the Serpent and curses him.

- ◆ **Genesis 3:15 HCSB** *I will put hostility between you and the woman, and between your seed and her seed. He will strike your head, and you will strike his heel.*
- ◆ **Psalms 74:14 HCSB** *You crushed the heads of Leviathan; You fed him to the creatures of the desert.*
 - This passage indicates that Leviathan was the spirit influencing Pharaoh to continue to enslave and seek to destroy the people of God.

He is multi-headed. – Psalm 74:14

HEADS OF LEVIATHAN (JOB 41)

Pride

- Self sufficient – Job 41:3
- Un repenting – Job 41:3
- Conceited – Job 41:4
- Hard headed – Job 41:7
- Self Righteous – Job 41:15-17
- Stubborn – Job 41:22
- Disrespectful and Fearless – Job 41:27
- Arrogant and Condescending – Job 41:33
- False Security – Job 41:33

Control

- Un-submissive Spirit – Job 41:2
- Power-hungry – Job 41:12
- Dominating – Job 41:25
- Untouchable – Job 41:26
- Thick-skinned – Job 41:7

Deception

- Not to be trusted – Job 41:5
- Deceptive – Job 41:13
- False – Job 41:14
- False Prophet – Job 41:19

- Two faced – Psalm 74:14

Vengefulness

- Intimidating – Job 41:6,9,10
- Hateful and Hurtful – Job 41:8
- Slanderous – Job 41:30
- Cold Hearted – Job 41:24

Confusion

- Stirs Up Confusion – Job 41:20
- Impulsive – Job 41:18

Contentiousness

- Uncontrollable Tongue - Job 41:1
- Stirs Up Trouble – Job 41:20-21, 30-32

Self-centeredness

- Self Serving – Job 41:4
- Narcissistic – Job 41:34

Where is Leviathan and How does he work?

Leviathan is always associated with rivers or seas.

- ◆ A river is a type of the flowing of the Holy Spirit.
- ◆ Where the Holy Spirit works, Leviathan lurks.

Leviathan seeks to latch hold of pride in the heart of the believer that begins to be puffed up and self satisfied in what the Holy Spirit has done in his life.

- ◆ Such a person begins to take credit, consciously or subconsciously for the move and works of God.
- ◆ When this happens, Leviathan strikes, filling the person with pride, self righteousness, arrogance, conceit and false holiness.

How do we fight him?

We don't – God does.

God crushes his heads – Psalm 74:14 (Lit: crack into pieces)

What can and must we do?

1st – Humble yourself in the sight of the Lord and let the Lord lift you. (James 4:10)

Humility is not simply thinking less of yourself. Rather it is not thinking of yourself at all.

- ◆ People can think less of themselves and be tricked into being proud of that.
- ◆ However, it is impossible to have no thought of yourself and be proud at the same time.

2nd – Repent of all pride and put yourself in God's hands.

- ◆ **James 4:6-7 HCSB** *But He gives greater grace. Therefore He says: God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble. (7) Therefore, submit to God. But resist the Devil, and he will flee from you.*
- ◆ **Proverbs 16:5 HCSB** *Everyone with a proud heart is detestable to the LORD; be assured, he will not go unpunished.*

3rd – Obey God and let Him fight the battle.

- ◆ **1 John 2:3-4 HCSB** *This is how we are sure that we have come to know Him: by keeping His commands. (4) The one who says, "I have come to know Him," without keeping His commands, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.*