

Introduction:

1. As you read or hear about the supposed history of life on earth, you will usually run into statements such as:
 - a. The dinosaurs have been extinct for millions of years.
 - b. No human has ever seen a living dinosaur, because they did not exist at the same time.
 - c. Dinosaurs would have been untameable.
2. However, this flatly contradicts what the Bible says.
 - a. The Bible says that the earth and everything upon it was created in a six-day timespan (Genesis 1).
 - b. Dinosaurs were on earth before man was.
 - i. The dinosaurs were created on day 5 or 6 (depending on whether they were considered “water” creatures or “land” creatures – Genesis 1:20-24)
 - ii. Mankind was the final part of creation (Genesis 1:25-27).
 - c. Dinosaurs were on earth at the same time man was.
 - i. In Utah, there are cave drawings which are dated to about a thousand years ago which have drawings, including a brontosaurus.
 1. How could they have drawn this without having seen one?
 - ii. It is very common to read about stories of the 10th and 11th centuries which include knights and dragons.
 1. Even stories written hundreds of years ago about that time era contain these elements.
 2. Is it coincidence?
 - iii. Thousands of figurines of dinosaurs were discovered in Mexico in the past century.
 1. These figurines depicted dinosaurs in various poses which were contrary to the depictions of dinosaurs in books of the early 20th century.
 2. Dinosaurs were depicted as slow-moving creatures who drag their tails around, like really big lizards.
 3. The figurines, however, depicted many of them as standing on their hind legs, using their tails as a counterbalance.
 4. Later fossil and bone discoveries showed that the figurines were accurate and the common knowledge of the time was wrong.
 5. How did whoever sculpted the figures know what the dinosaurs looked like and how they walked (especially if no man had ever seen a dinosaur in person)?
 - d. What does all this have to do with Job?
 - i. God describes some amazing beasts to Job which are very familiar-sounding to those somewhat familiar with dinosaurs.
- I. God demands an answer again (Job 40:6-14).
 - a. God continues to speak from the tornado.
 - i. Keep that in mind as we go throughout the rest of this lesson.

- ii. Job would have been quite frightened and humbled by the sight alone.
 - iii. Then God's booming, thundering voice speaks loudly.
 - b. God asks Job about Job's power.
 - i. Will you disannul my judgment?
 - ii. Will you condemn me so that you can be righteous?
 - iii. Do you have an arm [power] like God?
 - iv. Can you thunder with a voice like His?
 - c. God tells Job to perform great feats.
 - i. Deck yourself with majesty and excellency, array yourself with glory and beauty.
 - ii. Cast down all of the proud in your wrath.
 - iii. Humble the proud and tread down all the wicked.
 - d. If you can do these things, then I will confess that you have the power to save yourself.
 - i. No human can do these things.
 - ii. This section of Scripture shows that man is helpless without God.
 - iii. Salvation can only come from God.
 - 1. That does not mean we have no part to play (Peter said "save yourselves" in Acts 2:40).
 - 2. Apart from God, there is no salvation.
 - e. After again correcting Job's perspective, God then describes some of the massive beasts that man cannot control, but God does.
- II. The Behemoth (Job 40:15-24).
 - a. Behemoth is not a translation of the Hebrew, but instead is just changing the Hebrew letters into English.
 - i. The actual meaning of the word in Hebrew is not known.
 - 1. The LXX uses the word "THERION" which usually means a savage, wild beast.
 - 2. The "beast" (as in "mark of the beast") mentioned in Revelation is (in Greek) THERION.
 - 3. However, the word is also used twice to describe the snake which bit Paul on the island of Melita (Acts 28:3-5).
 - 4. So, the word itself (in Greek) means a dangerous, savage animal.
 - ii. It is obvious from the way God used it that BEHEMOTH was a name of a specific animal during Job's day.
 - 1. Some say God is describing a mythical creature, but that cannot be the case, because God said, "Behold now [look now] behemoth, WHICH I MADE WITH THEE."
 - b. Description of Behemoth.
 - i. He is a grass-eater (40:15).
 - ii. His strength is in his loins (40:16).
 - iii. He moves his tail like a cedar (40:17).
 - iv. His bones are strong like brass (40:18).
 - v. Only God can subdue this animal (40:19).

- vi. He eats on the mountains, unharmed by the beasts that roam there (40:20).
 - vii. He can drink up a river (40:23).
 - viii. Snares cannot harm him, he breaks through them with his nose (40:24).
 - c. Identification of Behemoth.
 - i. Some believe that a hippopotamus is being described.
 - 1. Have you ever seen a hippo's tail? It is small and limp; nothing like a "cedar."
 - 2. One of the ways hippos were captured was by piercing the nose and forcing it to breathe through its mouth, by which a fatal blow could be administered through that open mouth.
 - 3. A hippo could rather easily be subdued by man.
 - 4. The behemoth is not a hippo.
 - ii. Some believe an elephant is in view.
 - 1. Again, look at the animal's tail.
 - 2. Elephants were tamed and domesticated thousands of years ago.
 - 3. That hardly describes an animal that only God could subdue.
 - iii. Others say it is a rhino.
 - 1. Look once again at the tail.
 - iv. How about a dinosaur?
 - 1. A brontosaurus had a large, thick tail that could accurately be described as "like a cedar."
 - a. He was indeed a grass eater.
 - b. He would have had no problem drinking up vast amounts of water.
 - c. Climbing mountains would have posed no problems, and the other animals would have left it alone, based solely on its size.
 - d. Its bones are large and strong (like bars of iron).
- III. The Leviathan (Job 41).
- a. The word "leviathan" is translated as DRAGON (dragon) in the Greek translation of the Old Testament.
 - i. In Isaiah 27:1, the leviathan is described as a serpent and a dragon.
 - ii. The same Greek word is used throughout the book of Revelation and is translated "dragon" each time.
 - iii. This should give us an idea about what the Leviathan is.
 - b. The description of the Leviathan.
 - i. Cannot be caught with a hook or a noose (41:1)
 - ii. It will not plead with man (like a dog might whine) (41:3).
 - iii. He is not a pet to be played with or kept (41:5).
 - iv. He cannot be caught for food and clothing (41:6).
 - v. Spears and spikes have no effect on him (41:7).
 - vi. Even the sight of him will cause people to be cast down (41:9).
 - vii. No one has the courage to stir him (41:10).

1. If no one is willing to stir the Leviathan, who would dare provoke God who is more powerful than the Leviathan (41:10)?
 2. Everything under heaven is God's (41:11).
- viii. No one can bridle him (41:13)
- ix. No one can force his mouth open (41:14).
- x. His scales are so seamlessly together that they cannot be parted (41:15-17).
- xi. His eyes seem to glow (41:18).
- xii. He breathes fire from his mouth and smoke from his nostrils (41:19-21).
- xiii. His neck is incredibly strong (41:22).
- xiv. His scaly skin is firm and cannot be forcefully moved (41:23).
- xv. He has no fear – his heart is firm as a millstone (41:24).
- xvi. When he raises himself up, the mighty purify themselves...meaning they fill their britches because they are so scared (41:25).
- xvii. Iron and brass weapons are like attacking it with straw or rotten wood (41:26-29).
- xviii. Weapons placed underneath it are useless, he spreads them out in the mire (41:30).
- xix. He makes the deep to boil (41:31).
1. Possibly this is heating it with his breath.
 2. Possibly this is referring to the fact that this animal can swim underwater and stirs it up when he does (see verse 32).
- xx. No earthly creature or person has control over this animal (41:33-34).
- c. Identification of the Leviathan.
- i. One man whose commentary I have been reading as I study for this series of sermons said that "I am convinced that the description of Job 41 admirably fits the crocodile."
 1. A crocodile is very susceptible to spears and swords.
 2. It is easy to force crocodile's mouth open, because its jaws are built with strength to close.
 - a. Have you ever seen an alligator wrestler?
 - b. They focus on keeping the mouth closed.
 3. The underside of the crocodile is easily penetrated.
 4. The crocodile does not breathe fire.
 - ii. One lexicon suggested that a whale is being described.
 1. Have you ever seen or heard of a fire-breathing whale?
 2. How would you even have the opportunity to "stir" a sleeping whale?
 3. Spears can pierce the flesh of a whale.
 4. Whales have, for a very long time, been used as food and the body parted and sold by merchants.
 5. Does the sight of a crocodile make even mighty men lose control of their bodily functions?
 - iii. Is it possible that a dragon is under consideration?

1. The descriptions sure fit our traditional idea of a dragon far more than any living animal we have alive today.
2. Imagine seeing an actual, large fire-breathing dragon.
 - a. As a side note, some believe that Cherubim (which literally means "fire-snake") is also a reference to dragons.
3. There are also some large dinosaurs which were similar to the T-Rex, but which had a large crest on the top of their heads which could have stored gasses which, when combined, would have exploded in fire (like the Bombardier Beetle).

Conclusion:

1. One thing we can gain from this section of Scripture is that God is over even the behemoth (beast) and the leviathan (dragon).
 - a. When you look at the book of Revelation, Satan is pictured as a dragon and the beast is most often though as an earthly government which was tormenting Christianity.
 - b. These depictions are no coincidental, but instead are describing the most terrifying creatures to humans, but showing that God is still in control over both.
2. In all things, God is in absolute control.
3. Also, we should realize that there is ample evidence that dinosaurs and humans lived at the same time.
 - a. How could any culture draw pictures or describe beasts that they had never seen or heard about before?
 - b. One theory about the building of the pyramids is that they were built prior to the flood using dinosaurs as labor.
 - i. The Sphinx has marks of water erosion all over it, which is hard to explain if it was in the middle of the desert.
 - c. Chinese carvings show dinosaurs pulling emperors.
 - d. One of the proofs for God's existence is the Ontological argument.
 - i. Basically stated, it says that no one can imagine a concept which he has not already been introduced to by seeing it, hearing about it, smelling it, feeling it, or tasting it.
 - ii. Since a concept of God exists, somewhere, someone had to have had interaction with God.
 - iii. Since the concept of dinosaurs existed among mankind long before any dinosaur skeletons were discovered (in the 1800s), it proves that somewhere mankind had to have seen dinosaurs.
 - e. God describes dinosaurs as an actual reality in Job.
 - f. Do not believe the lies told by the evolutionists!