

*Dinosaurs
and their
Creator*

Central Highlands Congregation of God

Who Created the Dinosaurs?

Some Christian groups teach that the dinosaurs were created by Satan. Supporters of this idea claim that dinosaurs are ugly and violent, which in their mind proves that they were Satan's handwork.

Is this idea supported by the Bible? Does the Bible reveal who created the dinosaurs? Are all dinosaurs ugly and violent?

Indeed the Bible does tell us who created the dinosaurs:

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God.

All things were made through Him, and nothing was made that was made without Him. In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. John 1:1 to 4

There are two things we must note in this quote from John: First, **all** things were made through Jesus Christ, who is the Word of God. -Not just most things, but all things. Secondly, we learn that Life was in Him. If He (Jesus) did not have life within Himself, He could not have shared this life with His creatures. The following quote expands on this:

“For as the Father has life in Himself, so He has granted the Son to have life in Himself,

John 5:26 (also read John 5:21)

A thorough study of the scriptures will reveal that only Jehovah God, who is Jesus' Father, and Jesus (Jeshua the Messiah) himself have life in themselves at this time (ie- they have eternal life within them. This is detailed in our booklet “*Jeshua the Messiah-is He the Son of God or Part of a Trinity?*”)

To make sure that we have taken in this concept, God emphasises it again in Colossians:

He (*Jeshua*) is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For by Him all things were

created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him.

And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist. Colossians 1:15-17

Is God a liar? Did He make all things through Jeshua or not? Is there another source of life apart from God? Can you really believe that Satan is another source of life, a creator? Teaching that Satan made the dinosaurs and brought them to life elevates him to the status of God. This is exactly what Satan wants (See Isaiah 14:12-15). God has condemned this arrogance, telling us to worship Him alone (Matthew 4:10). The only thing that Satan created was lying (John 8:44).

And were the dinosaurs ugly? The Creator of the dinosaurs was very proud of these creatures. He speaks of His most powerful land dwelling creature in this passage:

“Now look at the behemoth (*a sauropod?*), which I made along with you; he eats grass like an ox. See now, his strength is in his loins, and his power is in the muscles of his abdomen.

He moves his tail like a cedar; the sinews of his thighs are knit together. His bones are like tubes of bronze, his ribs like bars of iron.

He is the first of the ways of God; his Maker brings near His sword. Surely the mountains yield food for him, and all the beasts of the field play there.

He lies under the shady trees, in a covering of reeds. And the marsh covers him, and the shady trees with their shadows; the willows by the river surround him. Indeed the flood may oppress, yet he does not run away; he is confident, even if the Jordan gushes into his mouth.

Shall anyone take him in his eyes, or pierce his nose with
a snare? Job 40:15 to 24

Some Bible commentaries suggest that the behemoth is an elephant. This is not possible - elephants have very small tails. But a sauropod such as the supersaurus or titanosaur fits the above description quite well. Indeed the supersaurus, with a total length of 35 meters (115 ft), has a tail which is truly comparable to the trunk of a cedar tree and has a massively strong skeleton. The mode of life most paleontologists suggest for the sauropods fit perfectly with the above description of the behemoth. And one more point: In verse 15 God says that He created the behemoth at virtually the same time as man. - God leaves no gaps and no time for evolution, as reading Genesis 1 will confirm.

God then goes on to talk about His most powerful aquatic creature:

“Can you draw out Leviathan (*a Pliosaur?*) with a hook, or snare his tongue with a line which you lower? Can you put a reed rope through his nose, or pierce his jaw with a thorn? Will he make many supplications to you? Will he speak soft words to you? Will he cut a covenant with you? Will you take him as a slave forever?

Will you play with him as with a bird, or will you tether him for your maidens? Will your companions bargain over him? Will they divide him among the merchants?

Can you fill his skin with harpoons, or his head with fishing spears? Put your hand on him; remember the battle; you will not do it again! Indeed, his hope of overcoming *him* is false; will he not be overwhelmed at the sight of him? No one is so fierce that he stirs him up.

Who then is able to stand against Me? Who has preceded Me, that I should repay him? Everything under the whole heavens is Mine.

“I will not keep silent about his limbs, or the matter of

his mighty power, or of his graceful frame. Who can take off the surface of his skin? Who can enter with his double bridle?

Who can open the doors of his face? All around his teeth is terror! His rows of scales are his pride, shut up tightly with a seal; one with one is so close that no air can come between them; They are joined one to another, they clasp each other and cannot be parted.

His sneezings flash forth light, and his eyes are like the eyelids of dawn. Out of his mouth go burning torches; sparks of fire shoot out. Out of his nostrils smoke goes forth, as from a boiling pot *heated* by reeds. His soul kindles coals, and a flame goes out of his mouth.

Strength abides in his neck, and dancing before him *are those* frozen from fear. The folds of his flesh cleave together; cast hard on him. He cannot be moved. His heart is cast as hard as stone, cast even as hard as the lower millstone. When he arises, the mighty are afraid; because of the crashings they miss their way.

Though the sword overtakes him, it will not hold firm; nor does spear, dart, or javelin. He counts iron as straw, and bronze as rotten wood. A son of a bow (*an arrow*) cannot make him flee; slingstones are turned into stubble by him. Clubs are counted as straw; he laughs at *those* shaking javelins.

His undersides are like sharp potsherds; he spreads sharp-pointed marks in the mire. He makes the deep boil like a pot; he makes the sea like a pot of ointment. He leaves a shining wake behind him; one would think the deep was gray headed. There is nothing on earth like him, one made without fear. He beholds every high thing; he is king over all the children of pride.” Job 41:1 to 34

Again, some commentaries suggest that this is a crocodile. But this suggestion is a poor fit: crocodiles have been routinely killed by humans for thousands of years. Psalm 104:25 and 26 reveal that leviathan can live in the open sea. Even salt-water crocodiles spend most of their time in estuaries or on land. They do not venture out into the open seas. Nor can crocodiles 'breath' fire. The description of the creature's size and mode of living fits more closely with that of a pliosaur. The largest pliosaurs found so far are over 20 meters long and are actually aquatic reptiles rather than dinosaurs as commonly believed. If we can confirm that some species of pliosaur are capable of breathing fire we will be confident that Leviathan is indeed a pliosaur. It is also quite possible that Leviathan is a totally different creature that is unknown to us today. As we will see below, there is evidence that dinosaurs, previously known as dragons, coexisted with mankind. Isaiah 27 even indicates that at least one leviathan is still prowling in our seas.

Do you still think all dinosaurs are ugly? God clearly does not think that the 'dinosaurs' He describes in Job are ugly. In the case of leviathan, Jehovah says he has a graceful frame, and this is despite his enormous size. As the old saying goes, beauty is in the eye of the beholder. Most people think warthogs and cane toads are ugly. But does this mean that they have been created by Satan? Obviously, as shown above, they were also created by God. God's creativity is not restricted by our ideas of beauty. The fascination that the larger dinosaurs hold for many people suggests that they see majestic power rather than ugliness in them.

And were they all violent? Many dinosaurs are now believed to be vegetarians, such as the brachiosaur. Yes, some dinosaurs were huge and potentially dangerous. Polar bears are large and known to be deadly. And how about all the other large carnivores? Are they all made by Satan too? No! We have shown you that the Bible teaches that these creatures were all made by God. These animals only became

carnivores after Adam and Eve fell from God’s grace and the entire earth was placed under a curse (Genesis chapters 3 and 9 , Romans 5:12).

The good news is that God has promised to not only one day restore the universe to its original beauty, but to exceed even that glory (Isaiah 65:25, Revelation 21:1-4). God, through the death and resurrection of His only true son, makes it possible for us to be part of His coming everlasting kingdom (Romans 3:9 to 26, Romans 8:18 to 39).

Appendix 1: Dragon Word Studies

Dragons

Dragons are mentioned in numerous places in the King James Version of the Bible. In the Hebrew scriptures dragon is translated from *tanniyn*, which is used 28 times. The Online Bible defines *tanniyn* as meaning “dragon, serpent or sea monster”. The usage of *tanniyn* shows that it is a generic term for an entire kind of reptile-like creatures, both marine (Gen 1:21) and land-based (Isaiah 34:13), both large (Gen 1:21) and small (Exodus 7:10). In Exodus 7, serpent (*nachash*, vs 15) and dragon (*tanniyn*, vs 9) are used interchangeably. *Tanniyn* can also be used to represent Satan, via his servant Pharaoh, as shown in Ezekiel 29:3.

Dragon is also used in the Greek New Covenant but in a much narrower context. Here dragon is translated from *drakon*. It is used 13 times. The Online Bible defines *drakon* as “a dragon, a great serpent, a name for Satan”. In the New Covenant *drakon* is used only in Revelation and refers to Satan each time it is used.

It is of interest that dragons are worshipped in many pagan (demonic) religions and are becoming a widespread and popular image in our own ex-Christian society. This must please Satan.

Leviathan:

Leviathan is a specific creature of the “dragon” kind (Isaiah 27:1). Some translations of Psalm 74:14 suggest that God kills Leviathan and feeds his flesh to His starving people living in the desert. One example is the NKJV:

You broke the heads of Leviathan in pieces, and gave him as food to the people inhabiting the wilderness.

As Leviathan is reptilian, it is an unclean animal, so this seems to be a very unlikely translation. Examining this verse shows that “him” has been added to the verse. A much better translation is “You broke the heads of Leviathan in pieces. You gave food to the people inhabiting the wilderness.”

Placing this verse in its context shows that it details things that occurred during the Exodus from Egypt, suggesting that the heads of Leviathan in this passage may really have been the Egyptian rulers. Indeed, the Aramaic Targums replace “the heads of Leviathan” with “the strong ones of Pharaoh”, supporting this alternative view of the passage. The Targums manuscript is reinforced by Ezekiel 29:3-5 where Pharaoh is described as an aquatic serpent. The sequence shown in Psalm 74 also fits the Exodus: Pharaoh’s army is destroyed in the sea, the Israelites begin to receive manna (Exo 16) and then are given water (Exo 17).

The above understanding that Leviathan can be a symbol for God’s enemies also fits with Isaiah 27, where we are told that God will destroy Leviathan in the Day of the Lord:

For behold, Jehovah comes out of His place to punish the

inhabitants of the earth for their iniquity; the earth will also disclose her blood, and will no more cover her slain.

In that day Jehovah with His severe sword, great and strong, will punish Leviathan the fleeing serpent, Leviathan that twisted serpent; and He will slay the dragon that is in the sea.

Isaiah 26:21 and 27:1

Isaiah reveals that Leviathan is both a serpent and a dragon. Psalm 74:13 confirms that Leviathan is a dragon.

The “heads of Leviathan” may indeed be an early model or type for the three heads of the satanic system which Jeshua will conquer when He returns to rule (Revelation 16:3; 19:20 to 20:3). The link between Satan and serpents, dragons and Leviathan (Rev 12:9) probably all go back to the Garden of Eden and the Fall of Man. At that time a serpent (Satan) deceived Eve into rebellion against God and thus initiated the massive corruption of God’s Creation which still affects us today (Genesis 3:1 to 19).

The Central Highlands Congregation of God translation of the Bible is used throughout this booklet. We believe our version is an accurate translation of the Scriptures. God's Word is sacred, and translations should not be slanted to suit the beliefs of the translators.

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Published by
Central Highlands Christian Publications
PO Box 236, Creswick, Vic, 3363 Australia
Email info@chcpublications.net
Web Page: www.chcpublications.net

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