

## **What Does the Bible Teach About Dinosaurs?**

(Source materials for this lesson presented by Doug Sanders include the King James Bible; Bible-Science Newsletter (1970, 2); Natural History (May 1939); Antiquities of the Jews (2.10.2); Institute for Creation Research; "Richard Owen: The Greatest Scientist You've Never Heard Of," Karoly Shindler, The Telegraph (December 7, 2010); "Creation vs Evolution," Dr. James A. Hodges; "The Critical Evidence of the Fossil Record," Dr. Don Patton; and an earlier lesson ("Dinosaurs in the Bible") presented by Doug with the Wesley Chapel church of Christ on December 21, 2013).

### Introduction

- (1) Fossils
- (2) Museums
- (3) Skeletons...we know much about how they look.

### Jurassic Park

- (1) Hollywood films

### Dr. Richard Owens

- (1) "Terrible lizards"

### Tyrannosaurus Rex

- (1) "Dinosaur"...not found anywhere in the Bible.
- (2) Tanniyn

### Herodotus and Josephus

- (1) "Dragon" 21 times in OT
- (2) "Dragon" 12 times in NT

### Monuments of Nineveh

- (1) A great fish swallows the prophet Jonah

### Book of Job

- (1) Alfred Lord Tennyson
- (2) Victor Hugo
- (3) Satan appears with the sons of God

### Job 1:21 and 2:10

- (1) Job lost his vast wealth
- (2) Job lost his family
- (3) Job lost his good health
- (4) Job's faith is strong (in the beginning of his ordeal)

### Job 7:3 and 13:15

- (1) Job: Is God responsible for all that has happened to me?

### Where Were You when I laid the Foundations of the Earth?

- (1) God proceeds to answer Job
- (2) God reveals to Job how little he knew about the earth and its environment.
- (3) Job is in no position to answer.

### Whirlwind

- (1) God begins a second round speaking to Job.

### Behemoth

- (1) Job chapter 40
- (2) This enormous creature living at the same time and in the same region as Job.
- (3) God was not showing Job a vision
- (4) Behemoth and Job could see each other.

### Leviathan

- (1) Job 41:1-34

### DINOSAURS ARE CONTROVERSIAL

In case you wondered about these things:

- (1) Are they merely mythological fantasies of antiquity?
- (2) Did dinosaurs eat man?
- (3) Did Adam name the dinosaurs?
- (4) When did the dinosaurs die?
- (5) Dinosaurs: Too big for Noah's Ark?

### Dinosaurs: Myths or Symbols?

- (1) The Bible says David, Nehemiah, Isaiah, and the Apostle Paul supported the Genesis narrative of God's creation.

### Bible Timeline (Sixth Day of Creation)

- (1) God made the beasts of the earth after his kind.
- (2) That would include dinosaurs.

### Behemoth: Hippopotamus?

- (1) ...exaggerated features borrowed from the hippopotamus.
- (2) Behemoth ranked "chief" of the Lord's creatures (Job 40:19).

### Leviathan: Crocodile?

- (1) None is so fierce that dare stir him up...
- (2) ...Egyptians tamed the crocodile and adorned it with jewelry.

### Genesis 1:29-30

- (1) There were no meat eaters in the original creation

### Genesis 2:20

- (1) God brought every living creature to Adam to see what he would call them:

### When Did the Dinosaurs Die?

- (1) Evolutionists say dinosaurs died out 65 million years ago.
- (2) Creationists say adding up the genealogies of Adam to Jesus do not equal millions of years.
- (3) Appearance of Age: God created the earth to look old?
- (4) Radiocarbon 14 Dating.

### Bible Timeline (Noah Lived After the Flood)

- (3) Eliphaz refers to the flood as being in the past (Job 22:16)
- (4) Job sacrifices to God as head of his family (Job 1:5)
- (5) Job's wealth is determined by flocks rather than money (Job 1:3, 42:12)

### Dinosaurs: Too Big for the Ark?

- (1) Behemoth survived.
- (2) Reasonable to assume that juvenile dinosaurs or dinosaur eggs were boarded on the ark.

### Job's Court of Law with God

- (1) There are at least 60 questions from God to Job.
- (2) Job does not answer to any of them.
- (3) Job had no clear concept of God's power and glory.
- (4) Isaiah calls attention to man's lack of knowledge about the time and nature of the true God (Isaiah 40:21).

### Dr. Don Patton

- (1) Graduate of Florida College (1963)
- (2) Dig sits in Colorado, Texas, Wyoming, and Canada.
- (3) Preacher of the gospel for over 40 years.
- (4) Dinosaurs co-existed with man.

### Cave Paintings in Zimbabwe

- (1) Representations of the elephant, giraffe, and brontosaurus.
- (2) Bushmen are known to have painted from real life.

### Paluxy Riverbed in Texas

- (1) Dozens of human footprints along with dinosaur tracks reported along this riverbed in Texas.

### WHAT CAN WE LEARN FROM BEHEMOTH AND LEVIATHAN?

Few animals are recorded in the Bible with such detailed descriptions as recorded in Job chapters 40 and 41.

### Genesis 2:6

- (1) Earth covered by a mist.
- (2) God's creation unblemished, living in perfect harmony, eating only plants.

### No Death in the Creation

- (1) Genesis 1:29-30 & 2:17.
- (2) 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 15.
- (3) Hebrews 9:22.
- (4) Revelation 21:14 & 22:3.

### Death Now an Intruder

- (1) Romans 5:12
- (2) Romans 8:22
- (3) Last enemy to be destroyed (1 Corinthians 15:26)

### Genesis Chapter 7

- (1) In his book Creation vs Evolution, Dr. James A. Hodges has a chapter entitled "*Historical Evidence for Noah's Ark and Flood.*"
- (2) Dr. Hodges and other Bible scholars believe that most dinosaurs drowned or were suffocated in the mud from the raging waters during the Flood as described in Genesis chapter 7.
- (3) Quick burial approximately 4,500 years ago.
- (4) Fossils of many living things found throughout the world.

### Climate Change

- (1) The Flood is the best explanation for the loss of the Eden-like environment as described in Genesis chapters one and two.
- (2) "Fountains of the deep" forged mountain ranges and carved deep canyons (Genesis 7:11).
- (3) Destruction of habitats
- (4) "Every moving thing that liveth shall be meat for you" (Genesis 9:3).

### READ THE BOOK OF JOB

Job lost everything at the hand of Satan—his friends and even his wife tells him to curse God and die.

- (1) Job's suffering the result of some hideous, secret sin?
- (2) Job's confession to God: I know that you can do all things, and that no purpose of yours can be questioned.
- (3) No one is not righteous enough to know God's divine plan "As it is written, there is none righteous..." (Romans 10:10-11)

## Job's Repentance

- (1) His health is restored
- (2) His riches are doubled (14,000 sheep, 6,000 camels, 1,000 yoke of oxen, 1,000 donkeys.)
- (3) He has seven new sons and three new daughters.
- (4) Satan is defeated.
- (5) Job lives on for another 140 years—seeing see his descendants to the fourth generation and dying peacefully.

## God's Plan of Salvation

- (1) Dinosaurs are extinct— but God's Plan of Salvation is not.
- (2) Noah spent 120 years building the ark. Yet no one was saved from the flood except his own family.
- (3) Christ's church is over 2,000 years old and counting. And yet the end could be later this hour.

## 1 Peter 2:9

- (1) Job lived at a time when he could see behemoth.
- (2) We live in a time when dinosaur bones and the surface of Mars are easily viewed on our laptop computers.
- (3) It is all part of a look at God's creation—and a preview of what we can expect to see when we get to heaven.
- (4) The power and the glory of God.
- (5) We see all these things—and we have the complete Bible.
- (6) (We are) "...a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God's own possession..."

## Hebrews 4:15

- (1) Job never lost faith in God.
- (2) (Jesus) "...tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin."

## No Generation Will Have All the Answers

- (1) Including discussions about dinosaurs.
- (2) But to the Christian, whether physical evidence is found or not, it does not change the fact that through faith, we believe that the Bible is the Word of God.
- (3) Hebrews 11:1 ("...the evidence of things not seen.")
- (4) Hebrews chapter 1 (summary of basic truths for us.)

## Rebellion

- (1) This lesson is about God's creation.
- (2) God is the judge of it.
- (3) Adam and Eve's rebellion brought sin and death in the world.
- (4) God judged the rebellion in Noah's day with water.
- (5) God will judge the world again with fire (2 Peter 3:10.)

## Closing

- (1) Outlines and charts available on church website.
- (2) My email address for any questions or comments.