

THE COLDWATER CONTENDER

"...ye should earnestly contend for the faith..." (Jude 3)

March 02, 2014

Coldwater church of Christ

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ELDERS

Richard Price
Kevin Smith
Bill Vincent

DEACONS

Bob Austin
Johnny Downs
Josh Fulcher

PREACHER

Luke Puckett

SUNDAY SERVICE

Bible Class: 9:30
AM Worship: 10:15
PM Worship: 1:00

WEDNESDAY

Bible Class: 7:00pm

LADIES CLASS

Tuesdays at 10:00am



A Message To Our Visitors

It is our privilege to have you visiting with us today. Please know that you are our honored guest. Please let us get to know you, and fill out an attendance card so we can have record of you being here. Please return to be with us again at your earliest opportunity. If you have questions or would like to study the Bible with us please let us know. Thanks again for visiting with us, and may God continue to bless you according to His divine purpose.



THOSE TO SERVE

Announcements:

Richard Price

Lead Singing:

Kevin Smith

Opening Prayer:

Andy Johnson

Scripture Reading:

Wesley Tucker

Lord's Table

Bob Austin
Johnny Downs
David Dodd
Josh Fulcher

Closing Prayer:

Hyland Darnell

Greeters (East)

Wesley & Whitney

Greeters (West)

Josh & Jennifer

LESSONS

AM: Dinosaurs 2
By: Luke Puckett
Scripture reading:
Job 40:15-24

PM: A Praying Church

By: Luke Puckett
Scripture reading:
Acts 12:1-5

Was the "Behemoth" a Dinosaur?

By Eric Lyons, M.Min.

When commenting on the behemoth of Job 40:15ff., modern scholars often make a general statement that goes something like this: “Most identify this beast as the hippopotamus.” But then they give little if any evidence to support such a claim. Another disturbing trend is how “certain” many of the critics sound when identifying this animal as a hippopotamus. For example, biblical commentator Edgar Gibson wrote: “...there can be little doubt that” behemoth corresponds with the hippopotamus (1905, p. 223). In his practical book on Job, Theodore Epp confidently affirmed: “The first animal mentioned is the behemoth or the hippopotamus” (1967, p. 175). This position has become so popular in modern times that few commentators have bothered to challenge the proposed identification of these beasts. In fact, some versions of the Bible even identify this creature in the marginal notes or chapter headings as a hippopotamus.

While it is true that a few similarities do exist between the behemoth and the hippo, some of the descriptive details simply do not (and cannot be made to) fit. For example, God described the behemoth as a creature that “moves his tail like a cedar tree” (40:17). The hippopotamus, however, hardly could be described—with its 6-8 inch stubby little appendage—as having a stiff or large tail. The tail of the hippo is short and small like that of a pig, and is a mere twig in comparison with a cedar tree. But that fact has not prevented commentators from attempting to avoid the obvious. Some believe that God is comparing the hippo’s tail to a cedar **branch**, not a cedar **tree**. Others, like John Hartley, have advocated the view that the tail is being compared to a cedar tree, rather than to a branch, but that God really was referring to the genitals of the hippopotamus. However, there is no credible evidence that suggests the Hebrew word for tail (*zanab*) ever was used euphemistically in Hebrew (e.g., as in regard to the reproductive organs). It appears that Hartley and others have rejected the logical rendering of the passage in order to force a comparison between the behemoth and the hippopotamus.

The behemoth is said to be “chief [i.e., largest] of the ways of God” (40:19) with bones like “beams of bronze” and “ribs like bars of iron” (40:18). Surely this would rule out the hippopotamus, since at full size it is but seven feet high and weighs about 4 tons. An elephant is twice the size of a hippopotamus, and yet even it was dwarfed by certain extinct creatures. For example, the creature once popularly referred to as *Brontosaurus* (now known more accurately as *Apatosaurus*) grew to weigh more than 30 tons. And scientists have discovered much larger dinosaurs than that. *Argentinosaurus*, for example, grew to weigh almost 100 tons, had 14-foot long rib bones, and left a footprint that was three feet in diameter.

The text also indicates that no man could approach the behemoth with a sword (40:19); nor were men able to capture him (40:24). Yet the hippopotamus was hunted frequently and captured successfully by the Egyptians. John Hartley observed: “Egyptian pharaohs took pride in slaying a hippopotamus. There are numerous pictures in which the pharaoh, hunting a hippopotamus from a papyrus boat, is poised to hurl his harpoon into the animal’s opened mouth, thereby inflicting a fatal blow” (1988, p. 524). Egyptians even celebrated festivals known as “Harpooning the Hippopotamus.” Additionally, Egyptian monuments frequently picture single hunters attacking the hippo with a spear. How could one accurately compare the unapproachable and unseizable behemoth with a hippopotamus?

The evidence documents overwhelmingly that the behemoth of Job 40 is a flesh-and-blood animal whose description does not fit that of any known creature present in the world today, regardless of attempts to equate it with the hippopotamus. Thus, it must be some type of extinct creature. But what kind? God’s description of behemoth is compatible **in every way** with the descriptions we have of some of the dinosaurs that roamed the Earth—not millions of years ago as some have suggested, but only a few thousand years ago (cf. Exodus 20:11; Genesis 1; Matthew 19:4; Mark 10:6). Yet, sadly, as Henry Morris has observed: “Modern Bible scholars, for the most part, have become so conditioned to think in terms of the long ages of evolutionary geology that it never occurs to them that mankind once lived in the same world with the great animals that are now found only as fossils” (1988, p. 115). A sad, yet true, assessment, unfortunately.

REFERENCES

- Epp, Theodore H. (1967), *Job, A Man Tried as Gold* (Lincoln, NE: Back to the Bible Publications).
Gibson, Edgar C.S. (1905), *The Book of Job* (London: Methuen).
Hartley, John E (1988), *The Book of Job* (Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans).
Courtesy of <http://www.apologeticspress.org/APContent.aspx?category=9&article=544>

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Announcements

- ⇒ **Reading plan:** (Numbers)
- ⇒ **Team 1** meets today
- ⇒ **Gospel meeting** with Chris Clevenger—March 9-12
- ⇒ Muscle and a Shovel has been added to the library
- ⇒ **Bible bowl** plans made with Green Plain congregation for May 3rd . Ages are Kindergarten through 12th grade. If interested please see Luke Puckett or Wesley Tucker. Topic will be miracles and parables of Christ.
- ⇒ **Area events:** Please see bulletin board for more info. Several meetings, singing classes and Bible schools are coming up in our area.
- ⇒ New personal invitation handouts are available . Please make sure to take some and handout or leave with a tip, and invite someone to our service!
- ⇒ **Remember** on March 9th to roll clocks forward!
- ⇒ **Pantry item** for this week is: Peanut Butter

Prayer/Sick List

- ⇒ Ruby Arnett (Heritage Manor nursing home in Mayfield Room 307)
- ⇒ Debbie Smith (Kevin's sister-in-law-cancer)
- ⇒ Greg Black (Kathy Black's son)
- ⇒ Loretta Haley (cancer)
- ⇒ David Edwards (Josh Fulcher's uncle-cancer)
- ⇒ Jana Ward (cancer)
- ⇒ Todd Walker
- ⇒ Trudy Smith
- ⇒ Hazel Brandon
- ⇒ Mae Downs
- ⇒ Norma & Hyland Darnell
- ⇒ J.D. Lamb (Fern Terrace)
- ⇒ Wanda Riley (Josh Fulcher's Aunt)
- ⇒ Delbert Newsome
- ⇒ Marilyn Dvorak (friend of Bob and Susanna, has esophagus cancer)
- ⇒ Dorothy McNeely (Richard Adams' sister, has cancer)
- ⇒ Derek Adams (Richard Adams' grandson, has leukemia)
- ⇒ Jim Pool (member at Green Plain)
- ⇒ Mallory Harrison Berry (friend of Stembridges, has brain cancer)
- ⇒ Garret Austin (Bob and Susanna's grandson has fatty tumor on hip)
- ⇒ Continue to remember all those who have lost loved ones this year

WHAT MUST I DO TO BE SAVED?

Hear the Word
(Rom 10:17)

Believe the Word
(John 8:24)

Repent
(Luke 13:3)

Confess Christ
(Rom 10:10)
(Acts 8:37)

Be Baptized
(Acts 2:38)
(Acts 22:16)

Remain Faithful
(Rev 2:10)
(Acts 8:12-24)

Heaven can be your home if you obey God!
(Heb 5:8-9)

Please visit our website at www.coldwaterchurchofchrist.org. You will find bulletins, sermon outlines, and other helpful links and material.



DINOSAURS (part 2)

1. Evolutionists say humans couldn't have coexisted with dinosaurs because they are large.

- What does John Clayton say about this? _____
- What makes some dinosaurs "scary"? _____
- List "deadly, scary" animals that we live with today, and what they can do. _____

- Are we able to tame and train these wild, deadly animals? _____
- What does God say that man had over all the animals? _____

Notes: _____

2. Dinosaur and human prints found together.

- Have human and dinosaur footprints been found together in the same depth? _____
- What does this mean or prove? _____

Notes: _____

3. What does God's Word say?

- Does the Bible use the word dinosaur? _____ Why or why not? _____
- Does the Bible mention by name every animal on this earth? _____. Give examples if it doesn't _____
- On what day did God create land animals? _____ Would this include dinosaurs? _____
- In Job 40, what name is given to the animal here? _____
- List some words used to describe this animal. _____

- Do you think this is a hippo? _____ Why or why not? _____
- What do you think it is? _____
- In Job 41, what name is given to the animal here? _____
- List some words used to describe this animal? _____

- Do you think this is an alligator? _____ Why or why not? _____
- What do you think it is? _____

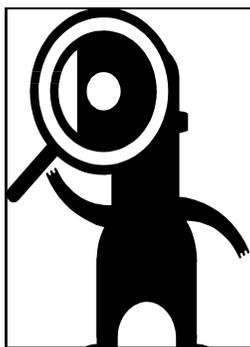
Notes: _____

4. Dinosaurs and dragons one in the same?

- What is the Greek word for dragon, and what does it mean? _____
- List animals that can do amazing things like breathing fire from a dragon. _____

- Are stories of dragons known all over the world and close to the same? _____
- List characteristics of dragons and dinosaurs. _____

Notes: _____



Bible question: What group of converts burned their books of magic?

Last week's answer: Nehushtan (2kings 18:4)

Those answering: Kay Robertson, Linda Jones, Helen Tidwell, Peggy Newsome, Clemmie Black, Bob & Susanna Austin, Rachel Adams