

1 & 2 Samuel Series

Lesson #176

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Dean Bible Ministries

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THE BATTLE IS THE LORD'S

LEVIATHAN, *TANNIN*, AND *RAHAV*—PART 3

2 SAMUEL 7:18–29; PSALM 89:10

**What the Bible Teaches
About
*The Davidic Covenant***



Psa. 89:10, “You have broken Rahab in pieces, as one who is slain;

You have scattered Your enemies with Your mighty arm.”

רַהַב comm masc sing abs *Rahab, Rahav*

רַחַב proper *Rahab, literally, Rachav, name*

This term shows up in in Job 9:13; Job 26:12; Psalm 89:10; Isaiah 51:9.

TWOT describes the verbal form in this manner:

The basic meaning of the noun is arrogance. *Rahav*, can best be translated as “the arrogant one.”

1. God created all living things including Rahav, leviathan, behemoth, the sea, and the *tannin*. These are real, not mythological creatures and creation.

2. God in His omniscience designed all of these things. Their design was intentional, with a view to how they would be used as biblical symbols as well as mythological representations.

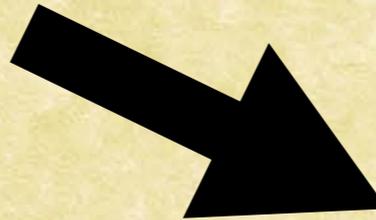
Tracing these “sea monsters”

1. *Yam*
2. *Tannin*
3. Leviathan
4. *Rahav*
5. Behemoth

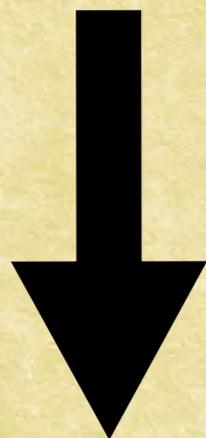
GOD the Creator

Mythological Deities

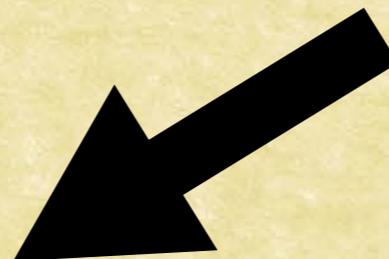
**All creatures:
*Yam, Leviathan,
Behemoth, Tannin, Rahav*
designed with a purpose**



**Uses God's creatures to
represent pagan deities
[demons] and to
describe origin myths.**



Referred to in the Bible:
**1. As actual, historical
creatures, and also**
**2. with a view to their
mythological connotations
to communicate God vs. evil.**



Job 9:13, “God will not turn back His anger;

Beneath Him crouch the helpers of *Rahav*.” [NKJV: allies of the proud]

Isa. 27:1, “In that day the LORD with His severe sword, great and strong,

Will punish Leviathan the fleeing serpent [*nahash*],

**Leviathan that twisted serpent [*nahash*];
And He will slay the reptile [*tannin*] that is in the sea.”**

**Job 9:13, “God will not turn back His anger;
Beneath Him crouch the helpers of
Rahav.” [NKJV: allies of the proud]**

**Isa. 27:1, “At that time the LORD will punish
with his destructive, great, and powerful
sword**

**Leviathan the fast-moving serpent
[*nahash*],**

**Leviathan the squirming serpent [*nahash*];
he will kill the sea monster [*tannin*=
‘dragon’].” NET**

Rev. 12:9, “So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.”

Rev. 20:2, “He laid hold of the dragon, that serpent of old, who is the Devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years;”





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Job 26:12, “He quieted the sea with His power,

And by His understanding He shattered *Rahav*.” [NKJV: “storm”]

Job 26:13, “By His Spirit He adorned the heavens;

His hand pierced the fleeing serpent [*nahash*].”

Job 3:8, “May those curse [*qabab*=harsh] it
who curse [*qll*=treat with disrespect] the
day,

Those who are ready to **arouse**
Leviathan.”

קָבַב *qābab* II, *curse*;
*most often in
reference to magical
formula*

עוֹר *'ur*

**to wake up, be
excited; causative-
to wake someone
up**

Leviathan the Dragon?



Leviathan

**Job 41:34, “He beholds every high thing;
He is king over all the children of pride.”**

Job 41:10, “No one is so fierce that he would dare stir him up.

Who then is able to stand against Me?

Job 41:11, “Who has preceded Me, that I should pay him?

Everything under heaven is Mine.”

Job 41:31, “He makes the deep boil like a pot;

He makes the sea [*yam*] like a pot of ointment.

Job 41:32, “He leaves a shining wake behind him;

One would think the deep [*tehom*] had white hair.”

**Job 41:33, “On earth there is nothing like
him,
which is made without fear.”**

**Job 41:34, “He beholds every high thing;
He is king over all the children of pride.”**

Psa. 74:13–14,

“You divided the sea (*yam*) by Your strength;

You broke the heads of the sea serpents (*tannin*) in the waters.

Psa 74:14, “You broke the heads of Leviathan in pieces,

And gave him as food to the people inhabiting the wilderness.”

Ex. 14:21, “Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea; and the LORD caused the sea to go back by a strong east wind all that night, and made the sea into dry land, and the waters were divided.”

Ezek. 29:3, “Speak, and say, ‘Thus says the Lord GOD:

**“Behold, I am against you,
O Pharaoh king of Egypt,
O great monster [*tannin*] who lies in the midst of
his rivers,
Who has said, ‘My River is my own;
I have made it for myself.’ ” ’ ”**

Ezek. 32:2, “Son of man, take up a lamentation for Pharaoh king of Egypt, and say to him:

**‘You are like a young lion among the nations,
And you are like a monster [*tannin*] in the seas,
Bursting forth in your rivers,
Troubling the waters with your feet,
And fouling their rivers.’ ”**

**Psa. 74:14, “You broke the heads of Leviathan in pieces,
And gave him as food to the people inhabiting the wilderness.”**

Ex. 14:30, “So the LORD saved Israel that day out of the hand of the Egyptians, and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore.”

**Psa. 74:14, “You crushed the heads of Leviathan;
you fed him to the people who live along the coast.” ~NET**

**Psa. 74:14, “You crushed the heads of Leviathan;
You gave him as food for the creatures of the wilderness.” ~NASB95**

**Psa. 104:26, “There the ships sail about;
There is that Leviathan
which You have made to play there.”
~NKJV**

**Psa. 104:26, “The ships travel there,
and over here swims the whale you
made to play in it.” ~NET**

**Psa. 104:26, “There the ships move along,
and Leviathan, which You have formed
to sport in it.” ~NASB**

**Isa. 27:1, “In that day the LORD with His
severe sword, great and strong,
Will punish Leviathan the fleeing serpent,
Leviathan that twisted serpent;
And He will slay the reptile [*tannin*] that is
in the sea.” ~NKJV**

**Isa. 27:1, “In that day the LORD will punish
Leviathan the fleeing serpent,
With His fierce and great and mighty
sword,
Even Leviathan the twisted serpent;
And He will kill the dragon who lives in the
sea.” ~NASB**

**Isa. 27:1, “At that time the LORD will punish
with his destructive, great, and powerful
sword**

**Leviathan the fast-moving serpent,
Leviathan the squirming serpent;
he will kill the sea monster [*tannin*].” ~NET**

**Job 7:12, “Am I a sea [*yam*], or a sea
serpent [*tannin*],
That You set a guard over me?”**

Gen. 1:21, “So God created great sea creatures [*tannin*] and every living thing that moves, with which the waters abounded, according to their kind, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good.”

Ex. 7:9, “When Pharaoh speaks to you, saying, ‘Show a miracle for yourselves,’ then you shall say to Aaron, ‘Take your rod and cast it before Pharaoh, and let it become a serpent [*tannin*].’

Ex. 7:10, “So Moses and Aaron went in to Pharaoh, and they did so, just as the LORD commanded. And Aaron cast down his rod before Pharaoh and before his servants, and it became a serpent [*tannin*].”

Job 7:11, “Therefore I will not restrain my mouth;

**I will speak in the anguish of my spirit;
I will complain in the bitterness of my soul.**

**Job 7:12, “Am I a sea, or a sea serpent,
That You set a guard over me?”**

***yam* and *tannin* (leviathan)**

**Job 7:12, “Am I a sea [*yam*], or a sea
serpent [*tannin*],
That You set a guard over me?” ~NKJV**

**Job 7:12 , “Am I the sea, or the creature of
the deep,
that you must put me under guard?”
~NET**

**Job 7:12, “Am I the sea (*yam*), or the monster of the deep (*tannin*), that you put me under guard?”
~NIV**

“Am I *Yam* or *Tannin* That you should place me under guard?” [~Longman]

“Am I Sea, and I the monster Tannin, that you keep me under guard.” [~Clines]

Job 9:13, “God will not turn back His anger;

Beneath Him crouch the helpers of *Rahav*.” [NKJV: allies of the proud]

Job 26:12, “He quieted the sea with His power,

And by His understanding He shattered *Rahav*.” [NKJV: “storm”]

**Psa. 74:12, “For God is my King from of old,
Working salvation in the midst of the
earth.**

**Psa. 74:13, “You divided the sea by Your
strength;**

**You broke the heads of the sea serpents
[*tannin*] in the waters.**

**Psa. 74:14, “You broke the heads of
Leviathan in pieces,**

**And gave him as food to the people
inhabiting the wilderness.**

**Psa. 74:15, “You broke open the fountain
and the flood;”**

**Isa. 51:9, “Awake, awake, put on strength,
O arm of the LORD!
Awake as in the ancient days,
In the generations of old.
Are You not the arm that cut Rahab
[*Rahav*] apart,
And wounded the serpent [*tannin*]?”**

Ezek. 29:3, “Speak, and say, ‘Thus says the Lord GOD:

**“Behold, I am against you,
O Pharaoh king of Egypt,
O great monster who lies in the midst of his rivers,**

**Who has said, ‘My River is my own;
I have made it for myself.’ ” ’ ”**

Psa. 89:11, “The heavens are Yours, the earth also is Yours;

The world and all its fullness, You have founded them.

Psa. 89:12, “The north and the south, You have created them;

Tabor and Hermon rejoice in Your name.”