

Job 41:17

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

They are joined one to another, they stick together, that they cannot be sundered.

Analysis

The description of Leviathan's armor intensifies: 'They are joined one to another' (ish be-achihu yedubbaqu, אִישׁ בְּאַחִיהוּ יִדְבָּקוּ) uses vocabulary suggesting intimate adhesion or welding together. 'Stick together, that they cannot be sundered' (yitlakadu ve-lo yitparadu, וְלֹא יִתְפָּרְדּוּ) emphasizes permanent, unbreakable bonding. The verb 'sundered' (parad, פָּרַד) means to separate or divide, the same word used for dividing waters in Genesis 1:6-7. What God easily separates in creation, humans cannot separate in this creature. This establishes divine prerogative—God alone can unmake what He has made impregnable. The unified armor represents how evil's components reinforce each other, creating systems of sin that resist dismantling. Yet Christ came to destroy the works of the devil (1 John 3:8), separating what seemed permanently joined. The verse points to Calvary where Christ sundered death's power over believers.

Historical Context

The imagery of inseparable joining would resonate with ancient metallurgy and construction techniques. Creating permanent bonds between materials was highly valued but difficult to achieve. Leviathan possesses naturally what humans could only approximate through skilled craftsmanship, emphasizing the creature's superiority to human technology.

Related Passages

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Study Questions

1. What patterns of sin in your life seem inseparably joined together, and how does Christ's power address them?
2. How has God separated in your life what you thought was permanently bonded to your identity?
3. In what ways does recognizing the strength of evil's coherence increase your appreciation for Christ's victory?

Interlinear Text

אֶחָד	בְּאַחַד יְהוָה	וְהָיוּ יַדְּכֶם קוֹיָם	וְלֹא יִפְּרְדּוּ	אֶל אֶחָד
one	to another	They are joined	they stick together	H3808
H376	H251	H1692	H3920	
וְלֹא יִפְּרְדּוּ:				
that they cannot be sundered				
H6504				

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