

Job 41:18

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

By his neesings a light doth shine, and his eyes are like the eyelids of the morning.

Analysis

"By his neesings a light doth shine, and his eyes are like the eyelids of the morning." Leviathan's sneezing produces light (possibly spray in sunlight), and eyes resemble dawn. The poetic description emphasizes glory even in this fearsome creature. God designs beauty alongside power. This teaches that divine creation integrates aesthetics with function—even the terrifying displays artistry. Nothing God makes is merely utilitarian; all reflects His creative excellence.

Historical Context

Ancient poetry often compared brightness to dawn. Attributing such beauty to Leviathan elevated it beyond mere monster to magnificent creation. This taught that even fearsome aspects of creation reflect divine glory and deserve appropriate wonder alongside fear.

Related Passages

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Study Questions

1. How does finding beauty in fearsome realities expand your appreciation of God's creative artistry?
2. What threatening aspects of life might reveal glory upon contemplation rather than only fear?

Interlinear Text

שָׁמָר: כְּעָפָעִי אֵלֶּא וְעַל עֵינֶיךָ תִּשְׁתַּחַטְתִּי
By his neesings doth shine a light and his eyes are like the eyelids of the morning
H5846 H1984 H216 H5869 H6079 H7837

Additional Cross-References

Job 3:9 (Light): Let the stars of the twilight thereof be dark; let it look for light, but have none; neither let it see the dawning of the day:

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