

# Job 41:28

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

The arrow cannot make him flee: slingstones are turned with him into stubble.

## Analysis

---

God's catalog of ineffective weapons continues. 'The arrow cannot make him flee' (לו-yawrisennu ben-qeshet, **לֹא־יָבַרְיָנָנוּ בְּנִקְשָׁת,** states that even projectiles shot from distance cannot drive Leviathan away. 'Slingstones are turned with him into stubble' (avnei-qela, **אַבְנֵי־קֶלָעַ** describes stones from slings becoming like worthless chaff against the creature. Arrows and slings represented ranged warfare that allowed attacking from safety—yet even these fail. The progression from close combat (previous verses) to ranged weapons emphasizes that no human tactical advantage avails against Leviathan. Theologically, this teaches that we cannot defeat evil from a safe distance; spiritual warfare requires direct engagement under divine authority. It also reveals that our best efforts apart from God are transformed into worthlessness when facing spiritual opposition. Only in Christ do we have weapons mighty to pull down strongholds (2 Corinthians 10:4).

## Historical Context

---

Arrows and slings were the primary ranged weapons of ancient warfare, allowing soldiers to engage enemies without close combat's dangers. David's defeat of Goliath with a sling (1 Samuel 17) demonstrated these weapons' potential effectiveness. Yet against Leviathan, even these celebrated weapons fail completely, emphasizing the creature's supernatural invulnerability.

## Related Passages

---

**Hebrews 11:1** — Definition of faith

**James 2:17** — Faith and works

## Study Questions

---

1. What spiritual battles are you trying to fight from a 'safe distance' that require direct engagement under God's authority?
2. How do your best efforts become 'stubble' when attempted in your own strength rather than God's power?
3. What does it mean to have weapons mighty through God for pulling down strongholds in your specific circumstances?

## Interlinear Text

---

לֹא	H3808	cannot make him flee	H1272	יִבְרִיחַ	H1121	The arrow	H7198	קַשְׁתַּת	H7179	לְקַשְׁתָּה	H7179	נָהָפְכִּים	H2015	are turned
לְ	H0	slingstones	H68	אֶבְנִים	H7050	קֶלָעָה								

---

From KJV Study • [kjvstudy.org](http://kjvstudy.org)