

Job 41:3

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Will he make many supplications unto thee? will he speak soft words unto thee?

Analysis

"Will he make many supplications unto thee? will he speak soft words unto thee?" Leviathan won't beg for mercy or negotiate—it cannot be reasoned with or persuaded. The Hebrew tachanun (תַּחֲנוּן, "supplications") and rakot (רַכּוֹת, "soft/gentle words") emphasize impossibility of peaceful resolution. Some forces cannot be diplomatically managed, requiring sovereign power to control. This teaches that not all problems yield to human wisdom or negotiation—some require divine intervention beyond human capability.

Historical Context

Ancient diplomatic practices involved negotiation and appeals for mercy. God's questions establish that Leviathan exists beyond such human methods. This taught that certain threats—whether natural forces, evil powers, or overwhelming circumstances—require divine power, not human cleverness, to overcome.

Related Passages

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Study Questions

1. What situations have you tried to negotiate or reason with that actually require God's powerful intervention?
2. How does recognizing the limits of human diplomacy increase dependence on divine power?

Interlinear Text

הִיִּרְבֶּה הַ	אֶל לִיךָ	תַּחֲנוּנֵי יָם	אִם	יִדְבַּר	אֶל יְיָ
Will he make many	H413	supplications	H518	unto thee will he speak	H413
H7235		H8469		H1696	

בְּכֹחַ:

soft

H7390