Job 41:7

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Canst thou fill his skin with barbed irons? or his head with fish spears?

Analysis

"Canst thou fill his skin with barbed irons? or his head with fish spears?" Conventional weapons—barbed harpoons (sukkot, שָׁכּוֹת) or fishing spears (tsiltsil dagim, בְּלְצֵל דָּגִים)—cannot penetrate Leviathan. Human military technology fails against this creature. This demonstrates limits to human power and ingenuity. No weapon crafted by human hands can overcome what God protects or empowers. This teaches that ultimate security and victory depend on divine power, not human weaponry.

Historical Context

Ancient hunting and warfare relied on spears, harpoons, and projectile weapons. Leviathan's invulnerability taught that human military might has absolute limits. This would comfort Israel facing powerful enemies, reminding them that God's power, not weapons, determines outcomes.

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Study Questions

- 1. What "weapons" or methods do you rely on that cannot solve spiritual or supernatural challenges?
- 2. How does recognizing limits to human power increase dependence on God's limitless strength?

Interlinear Text

רֹאשְׁוֹ: דָגִ ים וּבְצִלְצַ ל עוֹר וֹ בְשֻׂכּ וֹת הַתְּמֵלֵ א **Canst thou fill with barbed irons his skin spears with fish or his head**H4390 H7905 H5785 H6767 H1709 H7218

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