

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, שְׁקֹת) or fishing spears (tsiltsil dagim, צִלְצָל דָגִים)—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

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

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

רָאשׁוֹן: דְּגִים וְכָלָלָא לְעֹור וְבָשָׂךְ וְתַּחַטְמָל אֵת
Canst thou fill with barbed irons his skin spears with fish or his head
H4390 H7905 H5785 H6767 H1709 H7218

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