

Hidden Cross

November 2008

New Websites! Yeah!

I, just this last month, have become the owner of three new websites:

www.YoungEarthCreation.Org
www.HiddenCrossMinistries.com
www.Sagadii.com

These websites are not up and running yet. I have tried to get them going, but have not had time to between work, college, and all of the other ministry things I am doing.

When they get running, the YECO website will be for creation science and young earth creationism, HCM will be the one for the Hidden Cross Newsletter Archives, and Sagadii will be for self-education lessons and classes.

I am also hoping to acquire a fourth website, but I can't tell you about that right now because someone else might buy it instead of me.

In fact, if any of you would be willing to help with any of my many, many ministry things, let me know. Any help you can give will be appreciated (especially videography—my cameras keep malfunctioning when I try and do video projects). But like I said, any help at all will be appreciated.

Special Announcement

On November 19 of this year, Brock Lee, the publisher of Hidden Cross Newsletter, turns 20. (And all God's people said, "What? Isn't Brock the one who wrote this? Now he's a shameless self-promoter? Is he hoping for more presents? Why would he do this? Does he really think he's fooling anyone with this?")

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Levels of Scriptural Interpretation

Part 2

Example

Let's go through each level with an example and see how it works out.

Example verses: Job 41, talking about Leviathan

Note: Bible verses are original KJ. They have not been updated. Emphasis from original source.

Level 1 – Face Text

Job 41:1-34

From this, we can draw out some specific characteristics:

- The Leviathan has very tough, protective skin. In some verses, words are used to point specifically to scales of some kind. 7, 15-17, 23, 30
- Leviathan is very strong. Some verses describe it as fierce or fearless. 2, 8, 9-10, 24, 25, 26-29, 33
- The mouth of leviathan has many teeth. 14
- Leviathan was able to breathe fire. 18-21
- Good swimmer. 31-32
- Able to stand up (this distinguishes it from the Kronosaurus, which was one of the most popular suggestions for identifying Leviathan). 25

Level 2 – Other Scripture

Psalms 74:14

13 Thou didst divide the sea by thy strength: thou brakest the heads of the dragons in the waters.

14 Thou brakest the heads of leviathan in pieces, and gavest him to be meat to the people inhabiting the wilderness.

Form these verses we learn a few things. First, even though verse 13 does not mention the leviathan directly, it still mentions it with a mirror or repeat in verse 14, changing ‘dragon’ to ‘leviathan’. Second, it also tells us that the leviathan lives in the sea. Third, it tells us that God (as the psalmist is speaking to) is able to destroy the leviathans, despite the fact that no human can do so.

Psalms 104:26

26 There go the ships: there is that leviathan, whom thou hast made to play therein.

This verse is clear in saying that the leviathan was made to be in the sea, discrediting the idea that leviathan could be the Tyrannosaurus Rex because the T. rex was a land creature, not a sea creature.

Isaiah 27:1

1 In that day the LORD with his sore and great and strong sword shall punish leviathan the piercing serpent, even leviathan that crooked serpent; and he shall slay the dragon that is in the sea.

This verse is clear that God can destroy the leviathan even when man cannot.

Level 3 - Grammatical

Hebrew – livyathan – means “twisted” or “coiled”, so it is clearly a serpent

Smith’s Bible dictionary stated that Job 41 clearly means the crocodile, but remember that the croc hunter jumped on crocodiles, he didn’t run away from them. Therefore, a normal crocodile is not enough, but perhaps if a super-sized crocodile existed...

Level 4 - Historical

Many religions believed that different animals had different spirits. The Norse had warriors called Bear-serkers, because they wore the skin of bears into battle, thinking that this gave them the same spirit as that of the bear. From them, we get the word “Berserker”. Similar beliefs were held by Wiccans and Hindus, the Babylonians, the Egyptians, and several other religions.

Since many nations had the religion and the state so intertwined, the power of one often translated into belief in the power of the other. Therefore, if one nation’s priest had

a more powerful creature it could command, the more political power it had, because these powers were often dedicated to the patron gods of those peoples.

Level 5 - Scientific

The description of the Leviathan matches almost exactly that of a recently discovered creature, *Sarcosuchus imperitor*, the largest crocodile ever discovered. It is almost 40 feet long, the same exact length tip to tip as the *Tyrannosaurus Rex*. This creature has the nickname “SuperCroc” because of its immense size.

These similarities include teeth, size, swimming ability, scales, and temperament (based on tempers of other crocodile species).

Level 6 – Allusion / Symbolism

The Leviathan is an allusion to the devil. When it says that all men fear, that is what we should do with the devil. In addition, it says that even the strongest man can do nothing to restrain it, in the same way that man can do nothing to escape sin.

Jesus spoke about binding up the strong man. That was an allusion to that fact that He could do what no man could – binding the devil.

Some have posited that the leviathan is an allusion for various empires opposed to Israel and God.

Referring to the level 4 analysis again, in particular the leviathan was believed to be able to control the sun and eclipses of the sun. This connection between the leviathan and the sun is like that of Lucifer and the heavenly bodies. The name Lucifer means light bearer because he would have been in charge of the sun, moon, and stars.

Level 7 – Personal / Commentary

According to the Brock Lee Commentary Version (BLCV) or Sagadii Version (SV) of the Bible, commentaries I am working on, the comments are this:

-Leviathan possibly refers to the now-extinct giant crocodile *Sarcosuchus imperitor*.

-At 40 feet long (the same length as a T. Rex) *Sarcosuchus* or ‘Super Croc’ would have terrified anyone. Its skull alone was almost 6 feet long.

-Leviathan is also an allegory for Satan. The name Leviathan means “coiled one”, and is also referred to as a dragon. In pointing out that Leviathan cannot be defeated by man, but that God as the creator can defeat him, it is an allegory for how Satan cannot be defeated by human means, but only by God’s plan.

Now that you have read this, I hope you have learned some things about interpreting the Bible. Before you stop reading, please note these last few things. Even though I would advocate using all 7 levels, most fundamental theologians only use the first 4 levels (often packed into 2 – scripture and Grammatical/Historical). Lay people may only use the first two levels and level 4 depending on their knowledge and interests. I designed this systematic interpretation of the Bible to prepare people for the apologetics group I was starting called the Sagadii (based in Owatonna, MN). For apologists, who defend doctrines, it is necessary to know these in-depth things, but for most Bible-interpreters, this much depth is not necessary. It is certainly interesting, and can spice up sermons when used rightly, but it is not necessary.

Also, there will not always be stuff for every level. Some verses may not have scientific value (like the Ten Commandments). Most won't have an allusion or prophecy value. But all of them will have value for levels 1 and 3 for sure (and usually 2, but not always). So if you do research and there just isn't anything for that level, don't get obsessed about it. If there is something, there is, and if not, then there isn't.

I hope you enjoyed this article, and have found it useful. You may want to practice on some easy verses before handling the difficult ones, and I hope you do well using this system. God bless you.

Sylvia Browne—Shawn Hornbeck

Shawn Hornbeck is the miracle story of missing persons cases. Most people say it is impossible to solve such a case favorably without leads in the first year. Shawn was abducted on October 6, 2002 and was found on January 12, 2007, 4 ½ years later.

What most people don't know is that Pam and Craig Akers, Shawn's parents, appeared on the Montel Williams Show to ask Sylvia Browne about the case.

On that show, Sylvia made 16 statements. However, 4 of them cannot be confirmed yet.

The statements she made that cannot be confirmed are:

1. A kid named Keith saw Shawn after the time he was thought to have been abducted.
2. The abductor's last name sounds like ----- (they censored it on the video, so we can't know)
3. Shawn didn't know the abductor
4. Shawn's bike was in a dump in another state

The other 12 statements were:

1. The abductor's first name was Michael
2. The abductor had a blue car, maybe an Impala, 58 or 59
3. The car has/had fins
4. The abductor was Hispanic
5. The abductor had dreadlocks
6. The abductor was tall
7. The abductor was built like a basket ball player
8. Shawn was within a 20 mile radius of the Akers home
9. Shawn was South West of the Akers home
10. Shawn was in a wooded area
11. Shawn was near 2 boulders
12. Shawn was dead

Let's examine those things piece by piece:

1. This is true. Michael Devlin was the abductor.
2. Devlin drove a white truck, not a blue car.
3. Devlin's truck did not have fins.
4. Devlin was not Hispanic.
5. Devlin did not have dreadlocks.
6. Devlin was only moderately tall.

7. Devlin certainly was not built tall like a basketball player. He was lanky and somewhat chubby.
8. Shawn was 50 miles away.
9. Shawn was North East of the Akers home. Combined with above, this is a 70 mile difference.
10. Maybe if you count the wood used to build the building he was in.
11. The sheetrock on the walls must have been worth the 2 boulders.
12. Shawn was alive, and as far as I know, still is.

Prediction Breakdown

There were 12 predictions that we could test. Only the first one was correct. That is a score of 1/12, or 8.33%.

Scriptural Interpretation

Revelation 6:13

13 And the stars of heaven fell unto the earth, even as a fig tree casteth her untimely figs, when she is shaken of a mighty wind.

Level 5 – Science

If the Earth is in the center of the universe, then this verse implies that rather than the expanding universe like we have at this moment, the opposite would be true – that the universe would begin collapsing in on itself and the stars would indeed appear to be falling.

Also, if this is true, then the entire universe would eventually be crushed so tightly that it would seem infinitely hot, which may be alluded to when the Bible says that God will use fire to destroy the earth, but I do not favor this interpretation because that would be heat and not fire. Although, it is possible all of that heat might cause things to spontaneously combust, thereby giving fire that was promised.

It is also possible, however, that this verse means something completely different from anything we could conceive.

Proverbs

Fruit of the Spirit is NOT a Christian alternative to Fruit of the Loom (see Galatians 5:22 and Ephesians 5:9 for more.)

Christian Quiz

Since this issue concluded the scriptural interpretation article, it is only fitting that this quiz dealt with that partially. Like the quiz when the article started on Greek, this quiz will ask about Hebrew words used in the scriptures.

The Hebrew word will be the question, and it's definition will be the options.

1. Bara
2. Behemoth
3. Karath
4. Livyathan
5. Yom

- A. Coiled serpent
- B. Create
- C. Day
- D. Destruction or To destroy
- E. Double beast

Questions? Comments? Suggestions?
E-mail me at Vertisai [at symbol] hotmail.com

If you have a story you think should be included, or would like to volunteer as a writer,
your willingness to help would be appreciated.

And while you are on the net, check out the following websites:

WayoftheMasterRadio.com
nbcowatonna.com
Ianjuby.org
Livingdinosaurs.com
Omniology.com

The answers are: B E D A C