



4

Dinosaurs and Dragons

Key Themes

- The Bible tells us how God created the universe.
- God created the universe by the power of His Word.

Key Passages

- Job 40:15–24, 41:1–34

Objectives

Students will be able to:

- Identify the two dinosaur-like creatures described in the book of Job.
- Identify on which days of creation these types of animals were created.



Lesson Overview



Come On In

page 5

Students get answers to some Big Questions about creation as they pull questions from the cup and determine the answers from the Bible.



Activity 1: Great Creatures in Job

page 5

Students will complete a worksheet comparing leviathan and behemoth.



Studying God's Word

page 5

Dinosaurs were created on Day Six along with the other land animals. The book of Job mentions behemoth and leviathan—both dinosaur-like creatures. As we look through the lens of the Bible, the world of dinosaurs makes sense!



Activity 2: Memory Verse Review

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Students will practice their memory verse by putting the Memory Verse strips in the proper order.

Lesson Preparation

WHAT YOU WILL DO

WHAT YOU WILL NEED



COME ON IN

- Gather Big Questions and answer key you prepared and used from the previous lessons. The information is on the Resource DVD-ROM, Lesson 1.

- Cup with Big Questions
- Big Questions answer key



GREAT CREATURES IN JOB

- Print one Great Creatures in Job worksheet from the Resource DVD-ROM. Make copies for each student and keep the answer key for your own use.

- Great Creatures in Job Worksheet for each student
- Great Creatures in Job Answer Key



STUDYING GOD'S WORD

- Study the Prepare to Share section.
- Go Before the Throne.
- Print one each of the Animal Tail Comparison images from Resource DVD-ROM for your use in class.
- Print one Dragon Legends Map from the Resource DVD-ROM for your use in class.

- Student Take Home Sheets
- Animal Tail Comparison images
- Dragon Legends Map



MEMORY VERSE REVIEW

- If you did not previously prepare these, print and cut apart one set of the Memory Verse strips from the Resource DVD-ROM, Lesson 2, for each student. Put complete sets into small plastic bags or envelopes.

- Memory Verse strips
- Timer or stopwatch (optional)



Memory Verse

Exodus 20:11 For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it.

► **Pace your lesson!** You can use the provided clocks to indicate the time each section should be completed to keep the lesson on schedule. While teaching, you can compare your anticipated times with the actual time and shorten or drop sections as necessary.





Prepare to Share

SCRIPTURAL BACKGROUND

To prepare yourself for this week's lesson read Genesis 1:24–25; Job 40:15–24; 41:1–34. Meditate on the fact that God's Word is our final authority over man's word in every circumstance and situation.

We know that dinosaurs are perhaps used more than anything else to indoctrinate all of us into believing in millions of years of earth history. As we continue to explore Creation Week and the one who spoke all things into existence, we're going to take a more in-depth look at this very controversial subject—dinosaurs and dragons.

Let's begin in Genesis 1:1, "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth." This was the beginning of time as we know it. Before this moment in history, nothing existed except God. And then God created the universe in six days, about 6,000 years ago!

As we move on to Day Six of the Creation Week, we learn that God created all the beasts of the earth, everything that creeps on the earth, and man (Genesis 1:24–27). This reveals some very critical information. We know dinosaurs are land animals; we know land animals were created on Day Six; we know man was created on Day Six; so man and dinosaurs lived together at the same time only 6,000 years ago!

God references dinosaurs again in the book of Job. As God is describing His greatness to Job, He reminds Job of the largest animal He created—the behemoth (Job 40:15–24). The biblical description of this animal does not fit any living animal we know of today. It does, in fact, fit the description of a dinosaur—a sauropod—one of the largest dinosaurs, created by God on Day Six.

And to give us even more confirmation, God describes the leviathan in the next chapter (Job 41:1–34). What an amazing creature that must have been! This creature is mentioned four other times in Scripture (Job 3:8; Psalms 74:14, 104:26; Isaiah 27:1). It is believed that this was some sort of mighty dinosaur-like sea monster able to overwhelm the hunter (Job 41:9), but not too fierce for God. And what about the burning lights that flash from his mouth and shoot out fire (Job 41:18–21)? This is a creature unheard of today yet repeatedly mentioned by God and may very well have been a fire-breathing creature.

As you prepare for this lesson, proceed confidently knowing that the entirety of God's Word is truth (Psalm 119:160) and it should always be our starting point

and foundation when addressing questions presented by the world.

APOLOGETICS BACKGROUND

We mentioned above that dinosaurs and man were created on the same day of Creation Week—about 6,000 years ago. But is that what we hear around us? Absolutely not! "Dinosaurs died out millions of years ago and could never have lived with man!" Over and over this message is repeated with no regard to what God's Word says. Our response to this ultimately comes down to whether we trust God's Word or man's word. There can be no compromise. Where does your allegiance lie? What is your world-view?

Why is this important? The belief that dinosaurs lived and died millions of years before man, attacks the very foundation not only of the Bible, but of the gospel. The Bible makes it clear that God's original creation was "very good" (Genesis 1:31). Yet the fossils of dinosaurs reflect death, disease, suffering, cruelty, and brutality. If we accept that these fossils represent millions of years of earth history, then we are accepting death in the world before Adam's sin.

The Bible tells us there was no death in the garden. Both animals and man were originally vegetarian (Genesis 1:29–30). It was Adam and Eve's sin against a holy God that brought judgment on the whole creation—death, both spiritual and physical (Genesis 2:17; 3:19). In fact, it was Adam's sin that provoked the first killing of an animal in God's very good creation—the animal (or animals) God killed to provide Adam and Eve with skins to cover their nakedness (Genesis 3:21).

This first shed blood in the Garden of Eden was a foreshadowing of the Savior—the Lamb of God who would take away the sins of the world (John 1:29). Jesus came to earth in order to provide payment for the consequence of sin—which is death—and to offer eternal life (Romans 6:23). So you see, when we accept the notion of millions of years of animal death before the creation and Fall of man, we contradict and destroy the Bible's teaching on death and the full redemptive work of Christ.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Many believe the author of the book of Job was Job himself, who lived in the land of Uz (see Job 1:1). Most scholars agree that Job lived *after* the Flood of Noah's day (Job 22:16 makes an obvious reference to

the global Flood). Based on the text, biblical researchers have determined that Job lived to be over 200 years old. His life span fits with the life spans of the early descendants of Noah recorded in Genesis 11. This is important to note because it reveals that Job (and other men) lived with dinosaurs (behemoth and leviathan) after the Flood.

There are also several extra-biblical accounts of dinosaurs living with man.

Legends from around the world tell of heroes who killed large, reptilian creatures. The ancient Europeans, for example, called these monsters dragons. They appear in art, literature, and folklore. There are many Native American legends as well—of flying reptiles.

Then we have petroglyphs—rock paintings of dinosaur-like creatures. Similar images have been found on old pottery.

Other known historical accounts and legends of dinosaurs and/or dragons include:

- A Sumerian story dating back to 2000 BC or earlier that tells of a hero named Gilgamesh, who, when he went to fell cedars in a remote forest, encountered a huge vicious dragon. He slew it, cutting off its head as a trophy.
- When Alexander the Great (c. 330 BC) and his soldiers marched into India, they found that the local people worshiped huge hissing reptiles that they kept in caves.
- China is renowned for its dragon stories, and dragons are prominent on Chinese pottery, embroidery, and carvings.
- Who can overlook the story of St. George, popular in England, which tells of the hero who slew the dragon that lived in a cave?
- In the 1500s, a European scientific book, *Historia Animalium*, listed several living animals that we would call dinosaurs.
- Ulysses Aldrovandus, a well-known naturalist in the 16th century, recorded an encounter on May 13, 1572 near Bologna, Italy between a peasant

named Baptista and a dragon whose description fits that of the small dinosaur *Tanystropheus*. The peasant killed the dragon.

Keep in mind that none of the above references use the word *dinosaur*. We wouldn't expect to find the word in certain Bibles like the Authorized Version that was published in 1611. That's because the term dinosaur wasn't coined until 1841, not long after the bones of these great creatures were unearthed and studied. Before that, they were called *dragons*. You may notice that the Hebrew word *tannyn* is translated as dragon a number of times in the Old Testament. If you look at a King James Version translation, you'll see the word is still used in several places (Nehemiah 2:13; Psalm 91:13; Isaiah 27:1; Ezekiel 29:3).

None of the evidence that dinosaur-like creatures lived with man is deemed valid by evolutionists. Why? Because their worldview is based on their own pre-suppositions—that dinosaurs lived millions of years ago. This prevents them from even considering the evidence, whether historical or biblical. Our worldview needs to begin with God's Word as we rely on it for the foundation of all we believe.

For more information on this topic, see the Online Resource Page.



BEFORE THE THRONE

Lord, you alone laid the foundation of the earth. You determined its measurements. I am of small account, and yet the entrance of your words gives light; it gives understanding to the simple. Please use this lesson to help me see how your truth compares to the lies I hear from the world—especially about dinosaurs. Lord, help me to rely completely on your Word and to share my confidence in your Word with the children I teach this week. I pray they will come to love it and trust it over any opinion of man.



COME ON IN

As students arrive . . .

- They will pick questions from the cup or container and read them aloud.
- They will look up the Scripture on the question slip to determine the correct answer. Refer to the Big Questions answer key for answers.



After all the students arrive, pray with them before beginning the lesson.



REVIEW

Using the Lesson Theme posters from previous weeks, quickly review the lessons with your students. Take 5 to 10 minutes to reinforce the important truths the students have heard so far in your class.

Ask the children questions about the previous lessons as you review the Lesson Theme posters. Reflect briefly on the passages you read, bringing the objectives and themes back into focus. This will refresh the truths in your students' minds and maintain continuity as you teach through the lessons.



Great Creatures in Job

MATERIALS

- Great Creatures in Job Worksheet for each student
- Great Creatures in Job Answer Key
- Pencils

INSTRUCTIONS

Distribute a Great Creatures in Job worksheet and pencil to each student.

We will be filling in these worksheets as the class continues. Don't fill in anything right

now. Wait until we get to it—even if you think you know the answers. OK?

CONNECT TO THE TRUTH

The Bible contains some the names and descriptions of many kinds of animals. As we read through portions of Job during our lesson this week, we are going to read about the two animals listed on our worksheet—behemoth and leviathan.



Studying God's Word

This week we are going to talk about something that comes up over and over again from the world—and it doesn't agree with what God tells us in His Word.

READ THE WORD

Turn to Job 40. Job is in the Old Testament right before the Psalms. Starting at verse 15, I am going to read to the end of the chapter. *Wait until all the children have found the verses. Encourage them to follow along as you read.*

Before we begin, I want you to know that God is speaking to a man named Job. Job was a real historical person; he is mentioned by Ezekiel the prophet and James in the New Testament. He lived before Moses and after Noah. This portion of Scripture is part of a conversation between God and Job.

- ? Who can show me on the Seven C's timeline when Job lived? *Help students find Job on the Seven C's Timeline.*

The passage I'm about to read describes a great animal. Listen carefully and I think you'll be able to come up with what type of animal it is. *Read Job 40:15-24 enthusiastically!*



EXAMINE THE WORD

Observe the Text

Refer to the Bible Study poster to remind your students how to dig deeper into God's Word by asking the right questions. Distribute pencils and a copy of the Job worksheet to each student.

- ? We will use these worksheets to help us examine this Scripture passage. What is being described at the beginning of our passage? Look at verse 15. *Behemoth. Do you see the heading that says behemoth on your worksheet?*
- ? Where did behemoth come from? Look in Job 40:15. *God says He made behemoth along with Job. Please write the word "made" in the first blank.*
- ? Let's write down some of the ways God describes this behemoth. What did he eat? *Read verse 15 again. He ate grass. Write "grass" in blank number 2.*
- ? Listen to verse 16. Where is behemoth's strength? *Read Job 40:16. Hips. Have the children fill in number 3 on the worksheet. Write "hips" for number 3.*
- ? What on the behemoth is like a cedar tree? Look in Job 40:17. *His tail. Have the children fill in number 4 on the worksheet. Write "tail" for number 4.*
- ? How does God describe behemoth's bones and ribs? Look at Job 40:18. *His bones were like bronze. His ribs were like iron. Have the children fill in numbers 5 and 6 on the worksheet. Write "bronze" and "iron" for numbers 5 and 6.*
- ? Wow! This was an amazing creature! Big and strong. But what is this creature? Let's see. Was this an animal that lived on the land or in the sea? Remember what he ate! That's a clue. *He was a land animal. Have the children fill in the first part of number 7 on the worksheet. Write "land" for the first part of number 7.*
- ? And when were land animals created? If you have to, go back to Genesis 1:24 for a hint. *Day Six. Have the children fill in the second part of question 7 on the worksheet. Write "Six" for the second part of number 7.*

? Do any of you have footnotes in your Bible somewhere that says what a behemoth may have been? What does your footnote say? *Explain what footnotes are and help the children find their footnotes, then have them read what the footnotes say.*

? Many footnotes say that this description is referring to an elephant, a hippopotamus, or even cattle. But that doesn't really make sense in terms of what God's Word says. Look at verse 17, it says that behemoth's tail is like a cedar! What is a cedar? *A large tree.*

I don't think I've ever seen an elephant with a tail like a cedar tree! And I've never seen cattle—a cow or a bull—or anything like that with a tail like a cedar tree.

? What animal could possibly match the rest of this description we wrote on our worksheets and have a huge, tree-like tail? Do these animals match God's description? *Hold up the illustrations of the elephant and the hippopotamus.*

? Have you ever seen tails like trees on these animals? *Allow for responses. No.*
Of course not! An elephant and a hippo have very small tails.

? But what about this one? *Show the picture of the Brachiosaurus.* This animal does have a tail that looks like a cedar tree. And what is this animal? *A dinosaur.*

That's right. From the description in these verses, behemoth sounds like a dinosaur. Actually, behemoth is very much like *Brachiosaurus*, one of the large dinosaurs.

The tail is a big clue to what kind of animal this is, but verse 19 is also a big clue. *Read verse 19 again.*

According to this verse, this animal would have to be one of the greatest creatures God had ever made—one that stood out above all other creatures because this animal is called by God to be first among His creatures. "First" here means something like "finest." A hippo or an elephant doesn't seem to fit that description. But I think perhaps one of the large dinosaurs would fit, don't you?

I believe the only animal that fits all of these descriptions is the dinosaur—and probably a big one like the *Brachiosaurus*! *Write "Brachiosaurus" on the board and have students write it in the blank for question number 8. Write "Brachiosaurus" for number 8.*

Discover the Truth

OK. So what is the point? Well, you may have heard that dinosaurs NEVER lived with men, right? And you've heard that they lived and died out millions of years ago, right? But once again, God's Word tells us something very different. In Job 40:15, God is telling Job, "Look now at the behemoth, which I made along with you." God says to Job, "Look at it; I made it when

➤ Bring in a Bible that has the footnote that this animal was an elephant or hippopotamus and show them the note.

I made you.” It sure seems like the behemoth dinosaur was living at the same time as Job.

- ? But, we shouldn’t be surprised at this. After all, who remembers what was created on Day Six, according to Genesis 1? *You can refer to the Lesson Theme poster from Lesson 1 of this quarter. All land animals and man.*

Yes! And that means all land animals. Some of those land animals are now extinct, like the dinosaur. But they were all created on Day Six with man!

We believe what the Bible says. It is our final and absolute authority. God’s Word is true—every bit of it.



READ THE WORD

Job 41:1-34

Let’s read more of what God has to say here in Job. I think you are going to enjoy this next animal God describes. Take a look at chapter 41, beginning in verse 1. Pay careful attention to the details again as I read. Once more, I’m going to ask you to do your best to figure out what this animal is. Listen as God describes it. If you see a special feature that gives a clue to what this animal is, put your finger there and we’ll come back to it. *Read verses 1–34 dramatically!*

EXAMINE THE WORD

Once more God points out special features of His creation. If you think you know what it is, don’t say it yet. We need to write down the features on the worksheet.

Observe the Text

- ? Who can tell me what this animal is called? The answer is in Job 41:1 *Leviathan.*

Let’s explore some things about this creature as we complete the worksheet.

- ? Where did the leviathan live? Look at Job 41:1. *In the water. Have the children fill in question 1 about the leviathan. Write “water” for number 9.*
- ? How do we know that from reading Job 41:1? *It asks if you can draw him out with a fishhook.*
- ? What does Job 41:14 say about leviathan’s teeth? *They are terrible. Have children answer question 10 under leviathan. Write “terrible” for number 10.*
- ? What was he covered with according to verses 15–17? *Scales. Have children answer question 11 under leviathan. Write “scales” for number 11.*
- ? What is coming out of leviathan’s mouth? Look at Job 41:19. *Burning lights and sparks of fire. Have children answer question 12 under leviathan. Write “burning” and “fire” for question 12.*

How does God describe leviathan?



There is more about him. The bible says smoke came from his nostrils. His neck was strong. He was a very mighty creature not afraid of anything. *Have children answer the first part of question 13. Write “nostrils” for the first part of number 13.*

? Read Job 41:26. What do you think that means? *Allow for answers.*

He could not be killed. No sword could reach him. No spear or dart or javelin could kill him. He was almost invincible! And even the mightiest warrior was afraid of this great creature of God’s creation. *Have children answer the second part of question 13. Write “killed” for the second part of number 13.*

? What on earth was like him? Look in Job 41:33. *Nothing! Have children answer number 14 under leviathan. Write “nothing” for number 14.*

? So, what is your sense of this leviathan? What was he like? *Answers should include a great, fire-breathing animal that put fear into even the mightiest hunter. Very difficult to kill! There was nothing like him.*

No other creature in the sea was like this amazing animal.

Discover the Truth

? On which day of Creation Week was leviathan created? Remember, this is a sea animal that could not be caught with a hook—look at Job 41:1 again. *A sea animal—created on Day Five. Have children answer number 15 under leviathan. Write “five” for number 15.*

? What could this leviathan be? Check out the answers on your sheet. What animal fits those features? *Various answers.*

Well, once again if you look at the footnotes in some Bibles you’ll see some very different answers.

? Does anyone have footnotes explaining what the leviathan is? *Allow children to look and answer.*

Some say God was describing a crocodile; some say a killer whale or a great white shark. But again, like we saw with the behemoth, the Bible footnotes don’t make sense based on what God’s Word tells us. *Refer to the worksheet.*

Please remember, those footnotes are not God’s Word. Those are the thoughts of men. Men make mistakes and can be wrong. God does not make mistakes and cannot be wrong.

? So, based on what God tells us, what was this powerful animal? *Allow for answers.*

Some say this was a sea dragon. There are many stories about dragons that have scales and breathe fire. They are fierce and nearly impossible to defeat. *Have children fill in number 16 on the worksheet. Write “dragon” for number 16.*

You may have heard of dragons—and thought they were just made up stories. But there have been dragon legends told all over the world. The fact that these legends show up in so many places could mean that dragons were real—people did encounter them. The dragon legends actually confirm God’s Word—and His description of the behemoth and the leviathan. *Show Dragon Legends map from the Resource DVD-ROM. Point out that these legends are all around the world.*

- ? Although it might be a dinosaur-like animal, why couldn’t the leviathan be a dinosaur—based on what we now know? *Dinosaurs are land animals. This animal lived in the sea.*

So technically, a leviathan is not a dinosaur. It’s like a dinosaur, but since it lives in the water it is a sea creature. So we call it “dinosaur-like.”

- ? Is the Bible saying that all dinosaur-like creatures were made on Days Five and Six—giant sea creatures, flying reptiles like pterodactyls, and dinosaurs? *Yes!*

- ? What else did God make on Day Six? *God created man and woman.*

- ? So, God created man and woman, and all the land animals on Day Six, right? If the Bible tells us this so clearly, why do we get so confused when we hear something different? *Allow children to answer.*

I think it’s because we hear so much about dinosaurs evolving hundreds of millions of years ago and then dying out before man evolved. We hear that story more than we hear or read the Bible’s true historical account. And because we hear it so much, we just begin to believe it.

The dinosaurs were created on Day Six of Creation Week. Because of what God tells us in Job, we know that dinosaur-like animals lived on the earth from Days Five and Six until the day of Job at least. *Refer to the Seven C’s Timeline and point out how long dinosaurs probably lived.*

- ? Were there people living on the earth at the same time? *Of course!*

So, according to the most reliable source of history, the Bible, dinosaurs and man lived at the same time.

- ? Do you have any idea why the Bible doesn’t contain the word dinosaur? Why does it say “behemoth” instead of “dinosaur”? *Various answers.*

The Bible doesn’t use the word “dinosaur” because that word wasn’t made up until 1841! The English Bible was translated long before that. *Refer to the timeline to give them an idea of how recent this was!*

But the Bible does contain these descriptions of dinosaurs. We can be confident that all dinosaur-like creatures were created on Days Five and Six. Some flew like pterodactyl; some lived in water like leviathan; and some lived on land like behemoth. These creatures, which are now

extinct, lived alongside man since days Five and Six of Creation Week, 6,000 years ago, not millions of years!

Discover the Truth

OK. Do you see? We can't rely on man's word. Even the footnotes in our Bibles—which are written by men—are not always correct. We have to consider what God says—and only what God says.

No matter how many times you hear that dinosaurs lived millions of years ago, it is not true. The Bible tells us how God created, when He created, and what He created. The Bible has to be our final authority.

Man and dinosaurs (and dinosaur-like creatures), like the behemoth and leviathan, were created on Days Five and Six of Creation Week. They lived together, side by side. And according to the Bible, that was about 6,000 years ago—not millions of years ago. That's the truth.



Applying God's Word

WHAT YOU HEARD IN THE WORD

Today we've talked about dinosaurs and dragons. The Bible tells us that these creatures were created during the Creation Week on Days Five and Six, only 6,000 years ago, along with man.

We read a description of a dinosaur—the behemoth; and a fire-breathing dragon—the leviathan—in the book of Job. Man and dinosaur-like creatures did live together—and not that long ago! In fact, they were created at just about the same time. The great sea creatures (sea dragons or leviathan) were created on Day Five. Land animals (dinosaurs or behemoth) were created on Day Six, and of course, man was also created on Day Six. They all lived together.

We know God created all animals and people about 4004 BC. And we know when the book of Job was written around 2150 BC. So, we know that men and dinosaurs lived at the same time for nearly 2,000 years. *Refer to the Seven C's Timeline and point these dates out.*

GOD'S WORD IN THE REAL WORLD

Your friends may be surprised that the Bible mentions dinosaurs. God created dinosaur-like creatures on Days Five and Six of Creation Week 6,000 years ago. They lived at the same time as man. Later, they became extinct along with many other animals when the world changed after the Flood.

► Pass out the Student Take Home Sheets and remind the children to practice the memory verse this week.

When you hear that dinosaurs lived millions of years ago and that they could never have lived with man—remember what our Creator God has told us in Genesis and later in the book of Job. He was the only eyewitness to His creation. He does not lie.



Memory Verse Review

MATERIALS

- Memory Verse strip set from Lesson 2 in small plastic bag for each student
- Timer or stopwatch (optional)

INSTRUCTIONS

I hope you've been studying your memory verse this week. We're going to see. Take a quick look at the Memory Verse poster before I cover it up. I am going to pass out the Memory Verse strips again. When I say "Go," open your bag and put the verse strips in order as quickly as possible. Stand up when you have the verse in order. But don't

start until I say "Go." Cover up the Memory Verse poster and pass out the Memory Verse strip sets.

"Go!" Students should remove their strips of paper from their bag and put them in order, standing to indicate they are finished.

When everyone is finished, recite the verse as a class a couple of times. Encourage students to look away from the words of the verse as much as possible. Collect the Memory Verse strips for use again in future classes.

CONNECT TO THE TRUTH

Great! That verse reminds us that God created the universe in six regular days and on the seventh day, He rested.



MEMORY VERSE

Exodus 20:11 For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it.



GROUP PRAYER TIME

Be sure to pray with your class before you dismiss them.

- Praise God for including information about dinosaurs in the Bible, so that we have a reliable record from which to learn about His creation.
- Ask God to give us opportunities to share His Word with those around us.