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God, through His Son Jesus, provides eternal grace for our failures and human limitations.

Leviathan.

(2013)

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Leviathan.

Topics.

- Can Job put a hook in the nose of leviathan?
 - Can Job's companions fill leviathan's skin or his head with fish spears?
 - God will not conceal leviathan's parts, his power, or his comely proportion.
 - The scales of leviathan are his pride.
 - The breath of leviathan kindles coals and a flame goes out of his mouth.
 - Leviathan's heart is hard as a stone.
 - Leviathan is king over all the sons of pride.
 - God broke the heads of leviathan.
 - There go the ships: there is that leviathan.
 - The Lord will punish leviathan the fleeing serpent.
 - Pharaoh the king of Egypt the great dragon and God the fisherman.
 - Not all pride is destructive.
 - The mind of the flesh.
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NOTE: though the following could be considered to be speculative it is supported by many Scriptures, but it is certainly not a dogmatic teaching, but rather one that might hopefully open the mind of the reader to ponder new thoughts and new ideas and inspire those who are interested to do their own study and perhaps gain even greater insights into who this entity called leviathan might be.

Leviathan: comes from the Hebrew word (livyathan) and from Strong's Concordance could refer to a wreathed animal, (i.e. a serpent) (perhaps a crocodile or some other large sea-monster) and figuratively the constellation of the dragon and as a symbol of Babylon.

The Bible says leviathan is a king over all the children of pride (Job 41:34) therefore it seems more likely that the title, leviathan is symbolic of something that is common to every man and woman and has power throughout all nations of the world. This means that the word leviathan could simply be a symbol of sin and every aspect of it and especially of fear, pride and death. It seems hardly likely God would focus so much Scripture upon a crocodile or some other natural fearful animal creature. As we travel through Scriptures that speak of leviathan it seems more likely that leviathan is, a personification of sin, pride, fear and death personified as a fearful creature that no human can control since sin and everything that flows from sin especially pride and the destructive power of death have control and power over every man and woman living on earth.

Job 41

Can Job put a Hook in the Nose of Leviathan?

Job 41:1-5 ----- ¹Canst thou (Job) draw out leviathan with an hook? or his tongue with a cord which thou lettest down? ²Canst thou put an hook into his nose? or bore his jaw through with a thorn? ³Will he make many supplications unto thee? will he speak soft words unto thee? ⁴Will he

make a covenant with thee? wilt thou take him for a servant for ever? ⁵Wilt thou play with him as with a bird? Or wilt thou bind him for thy maidens?

God's words to Job, "Can you draw out leviathan with a fishhook, stop his tongue from talking, tie and bind him up or catch him as a fish with a hook," imply that Job cannot tame this creature called leviathan (v1-2) while God's words, "Will leviathan intercede for you or comfort you implies that leviathan will always act against what is best for Job and the words, "Will leviathan ever allow Job to take him for his servant (v4) implies that leviathan will never allow himself to be a servant to Job or to any man.

God is basically asking Job: -

- Can he take leviathan captive?
- Will leviathan will ever humble or submit himself to anyone?
- Will leviathan ever offer Job any comfort?
- Will leviathan ever make an agreeable covenant with Job?
- Does Job have the power to tame leviathan?

These questions imply that this creature called leviathan is so powerful neither Job nor any other man can control this entity. The only things that have power over mankind and that mankind can never destroy or control throughout the global world is sin, pride, fear and death.

Since we are told that leviathan is king over all the sons of pride (v34) it is possible that the title leviathan maybe a symbol of fear and death and sin and pride and every destructive force, influence and corruption that flows from sin and death personified as a fearful monstrous entity that no one can control or destroy.

Can Job's Companions fill Leviathan's Skin or His Head with Fish Spears?

Job 41:6-10 ----- ⁶Shall the companions (Job's friends) make a banquet of him? (leviathan) shall they part him among the merchants? ⁷Canst thou fill his skin with barbed irons? or his head with fish spears? ⁸Lay thine hand upon him, remember the battle, do no more. ⁹Behold, the hope of him is in vain: shall not one be cast down even at the sight of him? ¹⁰None is so fierce (courageous enough) that dare stir him up: who then is able to stand before me?

God is saying that Job's friends will never be able to catch leviathan as one would catch a fish with hooks and make a meal of him, meaning they will never be able to take leviathan captive or tame and kill him all they can do is remember the battle they may have endured while attempting to destroy or take power and control over this entity called leviathan.

God is telling Job that the hope of anyone to tame this wild creature is in vain because even his sight is so fearful that when one does see his form and dread they are cast down in fear and because of his destructive power no-one has the courage or is foolish enough to stir him up. Then the LORD concludes, "If no one has the power to stand against leviathan, who has any power to stand against the LORD?" Leviathan seems to be a picture of every aspect of sin including pride, fear and death. Individually and globally sin, pride and death is a very fearful and destructive entity that is impossible to tame and destroy.

Sin and pride destroys individual lives, it destroys nations and kingdoms and even the most powerful men of the world. God is the only one that can destroy sin, pride, fear and death and use them to accomplish His eternal plans and purposes. God seems to be saying to Job, "If you or any other human cannot control the collective power of sin, pride, fear and death in your own life and in the global world, who, are you to stand before me the LORD? Especially since I am the only one that can bring this collective monster of sin, pride, fear and death reigning and gnashing its

fearsome and awesome destructive power in the world to nothing, so who are you Job to question me?"

God will Not Conceal Leviathan's Parts, His Power, or his Comely Proportion.

Job 41:11-14 ----- ¹¹Who hath prevented me (God) that I should repay him? whatsoever is under the whole heaven is mine. ¹²I will not conceal his (leviathan) parts, nor his power, nor his comely proportion. ¹³Who can discover the face of his garment? or who can come to him with his double bridle? ¹⁴Who can open the doors of his face? His teeth are terrible round about.

God is telling Job that everything under heaven is God's even leviathan is under God's control and power. In verse thirty-four we are told that leviathan is king over all the children of pride this means that this entity called leviathan is the king over everyone who is controlled by pride, ego and sin. From these verses we learn the following two things: -

1. Though God has total power over sin He will not stop or hide any aspect of it in those that are full of sin.
 2. No one can understand the full depth, nature and character of sin, pride, fear, and death and no one can control them individually or globally.
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The Scales of Leviathan are His Pride.

Job 41:15-20 ----- ¹⁵His (leviathan) scales are his pride, shut up together as with a close seal. ¹⁶One is so near to another, that no air can come between them. ¹⁷They are joined one to another, they stick together, that they cannot be sundered. ¹⁸By his neesings a light doth shine, and his eyes are like the eyelids of the morning. ¹⁹Out of his mouth go burning lamps, and sparks of fire leap out. ²⁰Out of his nostrils goeth smoke, as out of a seething pot or caldron.

Here we are told that the scales of leviathan are his pride and that they are so stuck together that they cannot be separated this could be seen as a picture of the following two things: -

1. Sin, pride, fear and death since they are so closely related to each other it is impossible to separate any one of them from the other. This is one of the reasons why the law of sin and death states: "If you commit one sin you are guilty of them all."
2. Great success, great fame and great wealth and great riches, or great power and great authority since these things work together with pride.

By his neesings a light doth shine: does not refer to the light of God, but to the deceptive and destructive light of pride and to the light of deceitful workers disguising themselves as apostles of Christ in the same way that satan disguises himself as an angel of light (2 Cor. 11:13-14).

Eyes are like the eyelids of the morning: means they are sleepy and dull of hearing especially of hearing the word of the LORD as the following verse show: -

- Jesus said, "For this people's heart has grown dull and with their ears they can barely hear, and their eyes they have closed (Matt. 13:15).
- Paul said: "The Holy Spirit was right in saying to your fathers through Isaiah the prophet: 'This people's heart has grown dull and with their ears they can barely hear, and their eyes they have closed (Acts 28:25-27).
- The author of Hebrews wrote: "About this we have much to say, and it is hard to explain, since you have become dull of hearing" (Heb. 5:11).

Out of his mouth go burning lamps and sparks of fire leap out: even though what he speaks may sound appealing and enticing his teachings are false, deceptive and destructive.

Out of his nostrils goes smoke, as out of a seething pot or caldron: means that those who follow him will be consumed and led to destruction.

NOTICE.

This is a perfect description of the serpent that appears as a creature of beauty, but is full of lies, cunning and deception.

The Breath of Leviathan Kindles Coals and a Flame Goes Out of His Mouth.

Job 41:21-22 ----- ²¹His (leviathan) breath kindleth coals, and a flame goeth out of his mouth. ²²In his neck remaineth strength, and sorrow is turned into joy before him.

The King James Bible says: -

- In his neck remaineth strength, and sorrow is turned into joy before him (v22).

The English Standard Bible says: -

- In his neck abides strength, and terror dances before him (v22).

The following verses show that a stiff neck is a picture of pride and rebellion: -

- The LORD said to Moses, "I have seen this people, and behold, it is a stiff-necked people (Exod. 32:9).
- Go up to a land flowing with milk and honey; but I (the LORD) will not go up among you, lest I consume you on the way, for you are a stiff-necked people (Exod. 33:3).
- You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you always resist the Holy Spirit. As your fathers did, so do you (Acts 7:51).

We have already seen that leviathan is an entity of pride and an entity to be feared and one that no one can tame or control so the statement, "Sorrow is turned into joy before him" (Job 41:21) is not the best translation since it is hardly likely such a fearful creature would turn sorrow into joy, for this reason (though the King James version is not wrong as the following paragraph will show).

The translation of the English Standard Bible gives an better and clearer understanding of this fearful creature by translating the words as follows, "In his neck abides strength, and terror dances before him" this idea is in perfect harmony with the entire context of all other Scriptures that speak of this terrifying and destructive creature called leviathan.

The King James Bible: translation most likely means that leviathan neck remains strong (meaning strong in pride) and that if others peoples sorrow and grief means his victory their sorrow is turned into his joy.

An example of his would be slave traders, those who traffic young girls as sex workers or oppressive bosses who exploit their workers for their own gain. The suffering and sorrow of the victim becomes the joy of the evil master, because their sorrow means his gain. Sin will crush people to get what it wants. If other peoples sorrow brings sin success, then the other person's sorrow becomes sin's joy.

Leviathan could be seen as: -

- As a picture of sin and pride which rises up in such fierce anger (i.e., nostrils of smoke as of a seething caldron and flames of fire out of the mouth) (v20-21) that it causes all sorts of contentions and strife that can lead to divisions, fights, murders and wars.

- A spiritual picture of the global collective mind of the flesh and the extreme sin and pride of mankind in all its fury and power influencing the minds of the global world and bringing about destruction and sorrow.

Leviathans Heart is Hard as a Stone.

Job 41:23-28 ----- ²³The folds of his (leviathan) flesh stick together, firmly cast on him and immovable. ²⁴His heart is hard as a stone, hard as the lower millstone. ²⁵When he raises himself up the mighty are afraid; at the crashing they are beside themselves. ²⁶Though the sword reaches him, it does not avail, nor the spear, the dart, or the javelin. ²⁷He counts iron as straw, and bronze as rotten wood. ²⁸The arrow cannot make him flee; for him sling stones are turned to stubble.

Here we have picture of an entity that: -

- Mankind cannot destroy and will not back down from whoever opposes it.
- Has a heart of stone (meaning it lacks any form of mercy and compassion).
- When it rises up even the strong fear it.
- It does not run from weapons of war or fear them.

Again this is a perfect depiction of pride at its peak it has no fear and when it rises up in fury great men in authority and power are afraid of the destruction and terror it might cause. This is especially true when extremely prideful men are in positions of authority and have power over their nation's armies and weapons of war (especially weapons of mass destruction). Symbolically the words, "The folds of leviathans flesh stick together, firmly cast on him and immovable" (v23), could mean that every aspect of sin (self, ego, greed, jealousy, violent anger and such like things) is joined together to pride and cannot be separated.

Leviathan is King over all the Sons of Pride.

Job 41:29-34 ----- ²⁹Clubs are counted as stubble; he (leviathan) laughs at the rattle of javelins. ³⁰His underparts are like sharp potsherds; he spreads himself like a threshing sledge on the mire. ³¹He makes the deep boil like a pot; he makes the sea like a pot of ointment. ³²Behind him he leaves a shining wake; one would think the deep to be white-haired. ³³On earth there is not his like, a creature without fear. ³⁴He sees everything that is high; he is king over all the sons of pride."

These verses show that leviathan has no fear of weapons of war no matter how powerful the army might be or how mighty the weapons are they do not turn leviathans pride and fury away. Here is a very clear picture of the power and at the same time foolishness of extreme Pride. When pride is at its peak it will bow down to no one no matter what stands before it or how great the power is that is confronting or challenging it. Pride at its heights is such a powerful force in human nature that it has no fear not even of God.

Leviathan is pictured in these verses not only as a king without fear reigning over all prideful men and woman dwelling on earth, but also as a king enlarging and increasing every form of corruption worldwide and leaving destruction and ruin behind it. This also is a perfect picture of sin and pride since wherever they tread there is left behind them a trail of corruption, hurt and sorrow because pride at its peak has no fear and sees nothing except its own glory and is therefore driven to destroy anything that stands in its way leaving behind it a trail of destruction and ruin.

God broke the Heads of Leviathan.

Psalm 74:13-14 ----- ¹³Thou did divide the sea by thy strength: thou brakest the heads of the dragons in the waters.
¹⁴Thou brakest the heads of leviathan in pieces and gavest him to be meat to the people inhabiting the wilderness.

Following is a brief overview of this Psalm: Israel's enemy has not only burned down the temple of God and all Israel's meeting places throughout their land, but also profaned the sanctuary and everything throughout the land of Israel is in perpetual ruin and all their prophets are gone. Asaph (the author of this Psalm) asks God who is working salvation throughout the earth, "Why does He in anger cast Israel off?" and then asks Him, "To remember Mount Zion and His people who He has redeemed and not let Israel's enemies scoff over them." Asaph then talks of God dividing the sea by his might, of breaking the heads of the sea monsters on the waters and of crushing the heads of leviathan (v13-14) and then asks God to arise and defend his people and not to let the downtrodden the poor and needy of his people be kept continually in shame.

God divide the sea: (v13) refers to Moses' the Red Sea and the Exodus.

God broke the heads of the dragons: (v13) refers to Egypt's gods and to the soldiers of the king of Egypt who were drowned in the waters of the Red Sea.

God broke the heads of leviathan in pieces: (v14) refers to Pharaoh and to the rulers of Egypt and to the pride of Egypt and the pride of Pharaoh and the pride of the rulers of Egypt.

God gave leviathan to be meat to the people in the wilderness: (v14) refers to the defeat of Pharaoh of Egypt by the children of Israel.

Egypt's glory and pride was cast down: (v14) refers to pride of Egypt being crushed by people who were once their slaves and to their gods being destroyed the by the God of Moses the God of Israel.

Israel's deliverance from Egypt (called the house of bondage) was such a breathtaking time and awesome momentous event that Moses wrote a song about them crossing the Red Sea and Egypt's soldiers being destroyed in it so that Israel would remember from generation to generation that their nation was born out Egypt (the house of bondage) by the mighty hand of God. (The song is found in (Exodus 15:1-21) (Rev. 15:3)

Leviathan in this context is a symbol of Pharaoh the king of Egypt pictured as the personification of the PRIDE of Pharaoh and the pride of the nation of Egypt. The dragon is a symbol of the gods and soldiers of the Pharaoh of Egypt while the heads of leviathan are a symbol of Egypt's rulers under Pharaoh, king of Egypt. Leviathan in this context can be seen as symbol of pride and as a symbol of any powerful nation that is aggressively against God, against His ways and against His people.

Psalm 104

There go the Ships: there is that Leviathan.

Psalm 104:26-30 ----- ²⁶There go the ships: there is that leviathan whom thou (the LORD) hast made to play therein.
²⁷These (the men in the ships) wait all upon thee; that thou mayest give them their meat (rewards) in due season. ²⁸That thou givest them they gather: thou openest thine hand, they are filled with good. ²⁹Thou hidest thy face, they are troubled: thou takest away their breath, they die, and return to their dust. ³⁰Thou sendest forth thy spirit, they are created: and thou renewest the face of the earth.

In this Psalm the writer pictures God riding on chariots upon the clouds setting the earth on its foundations and having power over creation, thunder, the mountains, the earth, beasts of the field, the birds the heavens, the sun and darkness.

After exalting the LORD for these things he then says: "There go the ships and with them leviathan which the LORD formed to play in." He then goes onto to say, "Everyone looks to the LORD to give them their food in due season and when the LORD gives it to them they gather it up. When the LORD opens His hand people are filled with good things, but when the LORD hides His face people are dismayed and when the LORD takes away their breath they die and return to their dust" (v26-29). After this he then says: "The LORD sends forth His Spirit and life is created and the LORD renews the face of the earth and His glory will endure for ever. The LORD will rejoice in all his works as he looks upon the earth and at his touch the hills tremble and smoke. Let the sinners be consumed out of the earth, and let the wicked be no more, bless thou the LORD, O my soul" (v30-35).

SUMMARY: in this Psalm fishermen or traders are sailing to catch fish or to get wealth and merchandise (their meat) (v27) and leviathan is pictured going with them and pictured as a toy for God to play with meaning that God has total power and control over leviathan.¹ It is God who gives the men their fish and wealth and merchandise (the rewards) (v28). The Psalm goes on to talk about God taking away His hand of blessing, of the men in the ships being troubled (fearful) and about the LORD taking their life and them returning to dust (v29). Since the focus is upon God giving life and taking life it seems that in this context leviathan is either a symbol of life and death or a symbol of the fear of death.

God is able to give humans life and it is God who renews the earth, basically what the author is saying is that mankind is totally dependent on God for everything, including their very life Without God's blessings man lives in fear. Fear and death is always following man. Therefore the term, there go the ships: there is that leviathan (Psalm 104:26) seems to indicate the men in the ships are going and relying on God, but leviathan (fear and death) goes with them with this idea in mind leviathan seems to carry the idea of fear and death. God often rewards mankind with blessings, but when God takes His hand of blessing away, fear grabs hold. Man is always dependant on God for everything, even his life, because fear and death are constantly waiting to take hold of us. So in this context leviathan appears to be a picture of fear and death personified.

Isaiah 27

The LORD will Punish Leviathan the Fleeing Serpent.

Isaiah 27:1 ----- ¹In that day the LORD with his sore and great and strong sword will punish leviathan the fleeing serpent, leviathan the twisting serpent, and he will slay the dragon that is in the sea.

The words, "That day" refers to that glorious day when the Lord comes from out of his place to punish the inhabitants of the earth for their iniquity and when the earth will disclose the blood shed on it, and will no more cover its slain (referring to the day of judgment and the resurrection of the dead) (Isaiah 26:21). In this chapter Isaiah is saying in that day when the Lord returns he will destroy leviathan the twisting serpent and the dragon and after this event the pleasant vineyard (Israel) will rejoice.

He then goes on to say, "The LORD is Israel's (the pleasant vineyard) keeper, but He will thresh out the faithful (the grain) (v12), and glean them night and day one by one until they take root and blossom and fill the whole world with good fruit and worship the LORD on God's holy mountain at Jerusalem (v13) (by extension Israel embraces all who are in Christ). Leviathan is identified as the serpent and linked to the dragon. The following verses shine a spotlight on the identity of the serpent: -

- Behold, I am against you, Pharaoh King of Egypt, the great dragon that lies in the midst of his rivers (Ezek. 29:3).
- Say to Pharaoh King of Egypt: "You consider yourself a lion of the nations, but you are like a dragon in the seas (Ezek. 32:2).
- The great dragon was thrown down, that ancient serpent who is called the devil and satan the deceiver of the whole world (Rev. 12:9).

- He seized the dragon that ancient serpent who is the devil and satan (Rev. 20:2).

These verses show that the serpent is the same entity as the dragon and the dragon is identified as Pharaoh the King of Egypt and the serpent, the devil and satan while the sea is a symbol of multitudes of people. The serpent the dragon the devil and satan are all different aspects of the same entity. That single entity is the mind of the flesh and embraces every aspect of sin including the pride of man. From these verses we see that leviathan can be seen as a symbol of: -

- Any powerful nation that stands aggressively against God and against His people as Pharaoh the King of Egypt was against God, Moses and Israel.
- A symbol of sin, pride, fear and death.
- Any corrupt and sinful aspect of the serpent, the dragon the devil and satan.

For further information concerning the mind of the flesh, see the notes following (Revelation 20:1-3) under the title: "The Mind and the Dragon, the Serpent, the Devil and Satan," (below).

Ezekiel 29

Pharaoh the King of Egypt the Great Dragon and God the Fisherman.

Ezekiel 29:3-5 ----- ³Speak, and say, Thus says the Lord GOD; "Behold, I am against you, Pharaoh king of Egypt, the great dragon that lies in the midst of his streams, that says, 'My Nile is my own; I made it for myself.' ⁴But I will put hooks in thy jaws, and I will cause the fish of thy rivers to stick unto thy scales and I will bring thee up out of the midst of thy rivers, and all the fish of thy rivers shall stick unto thy scales. ⁵And I will leave thee thrown into the wilderness, thee and all the fish of thy rivers: thou shalt fall upon the open fields; thou shalt not be brought together, nor gathered: I have given thee for meat to the beasts of the field and to the fowls of the heaven.

In this chapter God refers to Pharaoh the king of Egypt as a great dragon that lies in the midst of his rivers and who not only boasts that he made the Nile river for himself, but that it is his own. This shines a brilliant spotlight on the extreme pride of the king of Egypt. God says He will put hooks in the dragons' jaws, and cause the fish of his rivers to stick to his scales and will bring the dragon up out of the rivers and all the fish of his rivers will stick to his scales. Then the LORD will throw the dragon and all his fish onto the open field for the beasts of the field and the birds of the air to eat and all the inhabitants of Egypt will know that the God of Israel is the Almighty LORD (Ezek. 29:1-7).

The symbolism: -

- God is the fisherman hooking out of the rivers a great fish (the dragon) and all its little fish and casting them upon dry ground for wild beasts and birds to eat.
- The great dragon refers to Pharaoh the king of Egypt.
- The rivers refer to nations affiliated with Egypt that are under the rule and authority of Pharaoh the king of Egypt.
- The river of Pharaoh the king of Egypt or the Nile River refers to the nation of Egypt itself.
- Fish that stick to your scales refer to all the nations that are affiliated to Egypt.

The hook the LORD put in the jaw of Egypt refers to Nebuchadnezzar King of Babylon. God gave Egypt to Nebuchadnezzar as wages for his armies because they never got any wages (spoil) when they worked for the LORD when He used them to bring judgment on Tyre (v18-20). It has been shown that leviathan is identified as the serpent and the serpent is identified in the book of Revelation as

the dragon and here in these verses we see that Pharaoh King of Egypt is identified as the great dragon and is so extremely prideful that he not only boasts he has made the rivers, but also that they are his own. This again shows that the leviathan can be seen as: -

- A personification of any corrupt and sinful aspect of the serpent, the dragon the devil and satan.
- A symbol of any powerful nation that stands aggressively against God and against His people as Pharaoh the King of Egypt was against God, Moses and Israel.
- A personification of sin, pride, fear and death.

Leviathan the serpent and the dragon are all different aspects of the same sinful and corrupt entity. Collectively the three titles embrace the mind of the flesh in the individual, a ruler or king and of the collective sinful mind of a crowd, a group a government or a nation and every aspect of sin including pride, fear and death. For further information concerning the mind of the flesh, see the notes following (Revelation 20:1-3) under the title: "The Mind and the Dragon, the Serpent, the Devil and Satan," (below).

Figuratively leviathan is pictured as some type of powerful fearful monster that no one can control that is roaming amongst the populations of the world that is influencing kings, rulers and nations against God and against His people and whose power is so great that even kings and rulers of the world are afraid to confront or challenge it. While God is pictured as the only person powerful enough to confront, challenge and defeat this entity called leviathan in fact when the power of leviathan is compared to the power of God leviathan is spoken of as a toy God plays with. The only entity this author can think of that has such global power over humanity and that rises up in fury when confronted is pride. The spirit of Christ is humbleness while the spirit of man is pride. It could be said that at the head of almost all sin relating to power, all divisions and all wars is pride.

Pride and satan: the primary spirit that encapsulates the meaning of satan is pride. The word satan embraces the idea of the ultimate ego, the biggest ego, the top of the tree (i.e., top dog) that is why an antichrist can kill millions of innocent people without losing sleep, he sees himself above all humanity and views himself as always right. The peak of pride is to believe you are equal to God or even as a god this sounds almost crazy, but some people are so egotistical they think the whole world revolves around them (remember some of the Caesars of Rome believed they were gods).

Not all pride is destructive: pride means self-importance, egotistical a braggart (i.e., one who boasts in themselves). In science there are molecules called leptons, they are even smaller than atoms, it has been said that, "Some people's pride is so high they only see people as leptons." But not all pride is necessarily bad it can be put into two different categories healthy pride and destructive pride.

Destructive pride: is manifested in a haughty attitude shown by somebody who believes, often unjustifiably, that he or she is better than others. A person who has this kind of pride will often not mix with those they consider their social inferiors.

This pride is arrogant it exalts oneself above others and even God. It treats those it looks down to and believes are inferior to them with disdain and at its peak with cruelty and destruction. It causes quarrels, strife, arguments, fights and even wars. Wisdom regarding this kind of arrogant and self-exalting pride is, knowing it can only lead to strife and destruction, this is why the person with wisdom chooses to be humble rather than arrogant and prideful.

Healthy pride: healthy pride is that happy satisfied feeling somebody experiences when having or achieving something special that other people admire (i.e., a person taking great pride in their work). It is having the correct level of respect for the importance and value of one's own personal character, life, efforts, or achievements as opposed to having no confidence and no sense of worth. Healthy pride gives personal satisfaction such as an achievement or possession that

somebody feels especially pleased and satisfied with (i.e., their grandchildren were their pride and joy). It is having a personal satisfaction and pleasure from a particular source, especially something accomplished or a quality possessed.

The Mind and the Dragon, the Serpent, the Devil and Satan.

Revelation 20:1-3 ----- ¹I (John) saw an angel coming down from heaven, holding in his hand the key to the bottomless pit and a great chain. ²And he seized the dragon, that ancient serpent who is the devil and satan and bound him for a thousand years, ³and threw him into the pit, and shut it and sealed it over him, so that he might not deceive the nations any longer, until the thousand years were ended. After that he must be released for a little while.

This chapter uses very figurative language (i.e., no-one believes an angel of God is going to descend from heaven with a literal chain and wrap it around this enormous powerful evil entity so that it cannot escape). Nor does anyone believe there is a literal key this is a vision of future events that uses very symbolic images, pictures and language. The bottomless pit can be seen as the personification of the extreme depths of evil that the pride of man and the mind of the flesh, is capable of sinking to. The mind of the flesh and the endless depths of the human heart are capable of tremendous evil and horror when it craves for power, wealth and riches or lusts to satisfy its own pleasure and the things it sets its affections and cravings on. It is the human heart of those who are consumed with self, ego, pride and greed etc. that is the bottomless pit that evil ascends from.

The Mind of the Flesh.

Concerning the mind the Scriptures talk of: -

- A humble mind in contrast to a prideful mind (Acts 20:19) (Col. 3:12).
- A debased mind (doing what should not to be done) (Rom. 1:28).
- A mind of corrupt passions and a mind of futility (Ephes. 2:3) (Ephes. 4:17).
- A mind set on earthly things and the spirit of the mind (Philip. 3:19) (Ephes. 4:23).
- A sensuous depraved and corrupt mind (Col. 2:18). (1 Tim. 6:5). (2 Tim. 3:8).

The mind of the flesh is a mind that is set on the things of the flesh (Rom. 8:5) meaning set upon gratifying self, pride and ego and having a mind that craves after worldly riches and material possessions.

The dragon, the serpent, the devil and satan: from (Rev. 20:1-3) we see that the title, dragon embraces all the evil character of the serpent the devil and satan which means that all of these names are different aspects of the same entity which is the mind of the flesh and the pride of man manifested outwardly on earth in all its wicked and corrupt forms.

The apostle Paul wrote: -

- Those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh which is hostile to God because it does not submit to God (Rom. 8:5-7).
- The desires of the flesh are against the Spirit (of God and of Christ), and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh for the Spirit and the flesh are opposed to each other (Galatians 5:17).
- The passions of the flesh carry out the desires of the body and the mind (Ephes. 2:3).

John states: -

- All that is in the world, the desires of the flesh, the desires of the eyes and pride in possessions is from the world and not from God (1 John 2:16).

The titles, dragon the serpent, the devil and satan are names given to that spirit of man that is hostile to God and to Christ which are titles given to the spirit or mind of the flesh. Generally the dragon refers to world rulers, governments and leaders who have influence over the masses. The devil refers that spirit within us that is prone to sin, the title satan is interchangeable with the word devil but generally refers to religious or secular authorities hostile to God and His ways who have influence over others.

A practical example of the devil, the serpent and satan: a young apprentice starts a new job, on his first day a fellow worker approaches him and says, "All the boys are buying ecstasy drugs how many do you want?" The young lad says, "Sorry I don't take drugs it is against what I believe." This man is a serpent to the boy by tempting him to compromise his principals. The man goes and tells the rest of the workers, "Hey guys this new apprentice is a wowser a self-righteous religious nut." Now the man is a devil by being an accuser and slander.

Later in the same day one of the stronger men gets the boy by himself and says, "Listen you little runt of a kid, don't pull that religious stuff on us. I'll mess your face up good." This man is a satan to the boy by being an opposer to what the young apprentice believes. The poor kid has confronted the serpent, the devil and satan all on his first day of work.

The titles: the dragon the serpent, the devil and satan, refer to anything that is contrary or opposed to God's law, God's will and His eternal plans and purposes. It is in this sense the dragon that old serpent which is the devil, and satan is bound for a thousand years. This means the flesh (i.e. selfishness, pride, greed and such like things) will be greatly limited and unable to manifest their gross evil, wicked and sinful ways.

Matthew wrote: -

- Out of the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false witness and slander" (Matt 15:19) and Luke tells us; "From within out of the heart of man, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder and adultery" (Mark 7:21).

Matthew and Luke show us that all evil, wickedness and sin on earth flows from the bottomless depths of the human heart that is hostile to God. The expression, "The bottomless pit" refers to all the evil and wickedness in the human heart that is in rebellion to God and against His will and His ways and against Christ and against those who faithfully follow him and not to a bottomless pit somewhere below the surface of the earth. The dragon the serpent, the devil and satan can be seen as the personification of the mind of the flesh and the pride of man. It is that spirit in the human heart that is against God and his will and against Christ and all who faithfully follow him which is manifested in outward actions that are opposed to the nature and character of God and of Christ.

During the glorious Kingdom age of Christ's reign as King of kings and Lord of lords the dragon the serpent, the devil and satan are bound. This is because Christ is ruling with a rod of iron, (meaning great power and authority) as God's mighty King to establish God's Kingdom of righteousness, justice, joy and peace on earth. During this glorious Kingdom age every form of evil and corruption is going to be extremely limited and immediately be restrained, neither man's sinful desire nor the selfish ambition of any ruler or government that is opposed to God or any form of injustice will be tolerated during Christ's glorious millennial reign.

It is in this sense the dragon the serpent, the devil and satan will be bound, they will not be able to do those things the flesh desires and craves to do. Governments will not be able to build weapons of war and the rich will not be able to oppress their employees and the poor for their own selfish gain and false religious leaders will not be able to deceive and make merchandise of God's people. All injustices, wickedness and everything that harms another human will be restrained, because Christ's is ruling, not as a ruthless dictator, but as a benevolent KING who desires to protect his children, the oppressed and the poor from every kind of harm and abuse.

For further information see the titles: -

- Dragon.
- Serpent.

Both titles are in (Satan and his Family) (ON WEBSITE MENU).

End.