



# Eternal PERSPECTIVE Job

## BIBLE TEXT | JOB 41:1-34

**1** "Can you draw out Leviathan with a fishhook or press down his tongue with a cord? **2** Can you put a rope in his nose or pierce his jaw with a hook? **3** Will he make many pleas to you? Will he speak to you soft words? **4** Will he make a covenant with you to take him for your servant forever? **5** Will you play with him as with a bird, or will you put him on a leash for your girls? **6** Will traders bargain over him? Will they divide him up among the merchants? **7** Can you fill his skin with harpoons or his head with fishing spears? **8** Lay your hands on him; remember the battle—you will not do it again! **9** Behold, the hope of a man is false; he is laid low even at the sight of him. **10** No one is so fierce that he dares to stir him up. Who then is he who can stand before me? **11** Who has first given to me, that I should repay him? Whatever is under the whole heaven is mine. **12** "I will not keep silence concerning his limbs, or his mighty strength, or his goodly frame. **13** Who can strip off his outer garment? Who would come near him with a bridle? **14** Who can open the doors of his face? Around his teeth is terror. **15** His back is made of rows of shields, shut up closely as with a seal. **16** One is so near to another that no air can come between them. **17** They are joined one to another; they clasp each other and cannot be separated. **18** His sneezings flash forth light, and his eyes are like the eyelids of the dawn. **19** Out of his mouth go flaming torches; sparks of fire leap forth. **20** Out of his nostrils comes forth smoke, as from a boiling pot and burning rushes. **21** His breath kindles coals, and a flame comes forth from his mouth. **22** In his neck abides strength, and terror dances before him. **23** The folds of his flesh stick together, firmly cast on him and immovable. **24** His heart is hard as a stone, hard as the lower millstone. **25** When he raises himself up, the mighty are afraid; at the crashing they are beside themselves. **26** Though the sword reaches him, it does not avail, nor the spear, the dart, or the javelin. **27** He counts iron as straw, and bronze as rotten wood. **28** The arrow cannot make him flee; for him, sling stones are turned to stubble. **29** Clubs are counted as stubble; he laughs at the rattle of javelins. **30** His underparts are like sharp potsherds; he spreads himself like a threshing sledge on the mire. **31** He makes the deep boil like a pot; he makes the sea like a pot of ointment. **32** Behind him he leaves a shining wake; one would think the deep to be white-haired. **33** On earth there is not his like a creature without fear. **34** He sees everything that is high; he is king over all the sons of pride."



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## DEVOTIONAL FOR JOB 41:1-34

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In Job 41 we see God challenging Job on his ability to tame or gain control over Leviathan, knowing that Job clearly holds no power over this earthly beast in and of himself. Through this passage we are reminded of our natural tendency to become proud or self-reliant when it comes to what we think we are capable of. Though we may not think of our flesh as Leviathan, don't we tend to do the same with our lives at times? We are constantly bombarded by cultural messages that placate *our* abilities, *our* dreams, *our* goals, or what *we* can accomplish in this life. But is it any surprise that this is the message being thrown at us? Who currently holds the power over this world? Satan (1 John 12:31; 2 Corinthians 4:4). He wants us to believe that our lives are just that- ours to control, not God's. He wants us to buy into the notion that anything he has to offer us in this world is worth striving after. He wants us to be lured into having a "God complex."

Did you notice what God said at the end of chapter 41? "He (Leviathan) is king over all the sons of pride." I don't believe God is drawing our attention to an actual beast of the sea, rather the beast within our own hearts. James 3:7-8 says, "For every kind of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by mankind, but no human being can tame the tongue..." We wrestle for the throne in our lives. We want control! But the truth is, without Jesus, we are incapable of taming the heart (Luke 6:45). For apart from Christ we can do nothing (John 15:5)! Paul understood this reality when he expounded on it in Romans 7:18-25. If we try to imitate Christ in our flesh, we will become miserable replicas. However, as Paul goes on to say, if we put to death the deeds of the flesh, and choose rather to walk in the power of the Holy Spirit, *all* things become possible (Romans 8:13; Luke 1:37).

You see, it's only when we release the reigns of thinking we can be the god of our own lives, able to tame our own heart, that we experience the true life that God Almighty has for us in Christ! (See Luke 9:23-24). May we decide today to not allow our flesh to be the king of our heart, but choose to walk in the authority we have in Christ so we can proclaim as Paul did, "I can do all things through Him who strengthens me" (Philippians 4:13).



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## Questions:

1. Do you struggle with self-reliance, control, or trying to handle things in your own strength? If so, what steps can you take to release the reins of "playing God"?
2. Read John 16:33 and Ephesians 3:20. How do these passages inspire you to believe God for the impossible?
3. If you're finding it difficult to let go of the reins or even unsure of how, reach out to your Journey Group or other Biblical community for encouragement and guidance. If you don't have Biblical community, please email [pastoraloffice@stonepointchurch.com](mailto:pastoraloffice@stonepointchurch.com) for help with next steps.