

# DINOSAURS: GOD'S TERRIFIC, NOT TERRIBLE, LIZARDS

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## • Name

1. Called "terrible lizards" by Sir Richard Owen in 1841
2. Called "dragons" previously

## • Origin--God's creation on 6th day (Ge 1:24)

## • Size--lizards grow as long as they live

1. About 50 kinds
2. Average size—sheep

## • Extinction?

1. Flood destroys most
2. Different climate kills some from Ark
3. Different climate changes survivors' size from Ark (compare ages in Ge 5 & 11)

## • Biblical references

1. Tannin--great land or sea monster (Ps 74:13; 91:13; 148:7; Is 27:1; 51:9; Je 51:34)
2. Behemoth--large beast (Jb 40:15-24)

*"Look at Behemoth, which I made along with you and which feeds on grass like an ox. What strength it has in its loins, what power in the muscles of its belly! Its tail sways like a cedar; the sinews of its thighs are close-knit. Its bones are tubes of bronze, its limbs like rods of iron. It ranks first among the works of God, yet its Maker can approach it with his sword. The hills bring it their produce, and all the wild animals play nearby. Under the lotus plants it lies, hidden among the reeds in the marsh. The lotuses conceal it in their shadow; the poplars by the stream surround it. A raging river does not alarm it; it is secure, though the Jordan should surge against its mouth. Can anyone capture it by the eyes, or trap it and pierce its nose?"*

3. Leviathan--great water animal (Jb 41:1-2, 31-34)

*"Can you pull in Leviathan with a fishhook or tie down its tongue with a rope? Can you put a cord through its nose or pierce its jaw with a hook? It makes the depths churn like a boiling caldron and stirs up the sea like a pot of ointment. It leaves a glistening wake behind it; one would think the deep had white hair. Nothing on earth is its equal—a creature without fear. It looks down on all that are haughty; it is king over all that are proud."*

## • Historical references

1. Gilgamesh kills dragon—2000 BC
2. Herodotus' record of winged serpents—450 BC
3. Alexander the Great finds huge reptiles in India—330 BC
4. Cassius Dio recorded Roman army killed 120 ft. long dragon—200 AD
5. Chinese dragon stories
6. Marco Polo's description—1200's

*"Here are seen huge serpents, ten paces in length (about 30 feet), and ten spans (about 8 feet) girth of the body. At the fore part, near the head, they have two short legs, having three claws like those of a tiger... The jaws are wide enough to swallow a man, the teeth are large and sharp, and their whole appearance is so formidable, that neither man, nor any kind of animal can approach them without terror." (The Travels of Marco Polo)*

7. St. George kills dragon—1300's
8. Bishop Bell's grave in England—1496
9. Italian peasant kills dragon—1572
10. Carvings on stone of humans & dinosaurs
11. African sightings today...
12. New Guinean sightings today...

*In December 1999, Papua New Guinea's newspaper reported a "dinosaur-like reptile" as "long as a dump truck," nearly two meters wide, with a long neck and slender tail. It walked on two back legs that were as thick as "coconut palm tree trunks," had two smaller forelegs, "sharp teeth as long as fingers," and skin like a crocodile.*