

KESSID SERMON NOTES



Sermon

"Encountering Dragons"

Date

9-30-18

Speaker

Pastor Danny Clinton

The word "Dragon" appears 21 times in the Old Testament (King James Version).

- Remember that the Bible was originally translated into English long before the word "dinosaur" was coined (back when scientists called the great reptiles "dragons").

The word was always used with one goal in mind...

- "To show the great and mighty power of The Lord!"
- And so, only ever in two different repeating scenarios...
- Here's an example:

(Vs) Psalm 148:7 KJV – "Praise the LORD from the earth, you **dragons**, and all deeps..."

(Vs) Psalm 91:13 KJV – "You shall tread upon the lion and adder: the young lion and the dragon shall you trample under feet."

- There are no other ways the word "Dragon" is used in the Bible outside of these two themes... So, let's unpack that a bit...

These verses represent the two ways in which we can approach struggle; the Dragons in our lives.

- And this is very important because, what it's really showing us, is, "How God chooses to meet us when we turn to face the largest roaring problems within our stories!"
- (Vs) Psalm 148:7 KJV – "Praise the LORD from the earth, you **dragons**, and all deeps..."

Here, "Dragons represent the things standing with or for God."

(Vs) Isaiah 43:20 KJV – "The beast of the field shall honour me, the dragons and the owls: because I give waters in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert, to give drink to my people, my chosen."

(Vs) Job 40:15-20 ESV – "Behold, Behemoth, which I made as I made you; he eats grass like an ox. Behold, his strength in his loins, and his power in the muscles of his belly. He makes his tail stiff like a cedar; the sinews of his thighs are knit together. His bones are tubes of bronze, his limbs like bars of iron. He is the first of the works of God; let him who made him bring near his sword!"

(Vs) Job 14:19-22 KJV – “Out of his mouth go burning lamps, and sparks of fire leap out. Out of his nostrils goeth smoke, as out of a seething pot or caldron. His breath kindleth coals, and a flame goeth out of his mouth. In his neck remaineth strength, and sorrow is turned into joy before him.”

Dragons that stand alongside me...

- Prayer, Worship, and Woundings

(Vs) Phil. 1:27-30 ESV – “Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the gospel, and not frightened in anything by your opponents. This is a clear sign to them of their destruction, but of your salvation, and that from God. For it has been granted to you that for the sake of Christ you should not only believe in him but also suffer for his sake, engaged in the same conflict that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.”

(Vs) Psalm 91:13 KJV – “You shall tread upon the lion and adder: the young lion and the dragon shall you trample under feet.”

Here, “Dragons represent the things standing opposed or against God.”

(Vs) Psalm 74:12-14 KJV – “For God is my King of old, working salvation in the midst of the earth. Thou didst divide the sea by thy strength: thou brakest the heads of the dragons in the waters. Thou brakest the heads of leviathan in pieces, and gavest him to be meat to the people inhabiting the wilderness.”

(Vs) Isaiah 27:1 KJV – “In that day the Lord with his hard 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.”

(Vs) Rev. 12:9 KJV – “And the great dragon was thrown down, that ancient serpent, who is called the devil and Satan, the deceiver of the whole world—he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him.”

Dragons that stand against me...

- The World's Opposition, Evil's Agenda, and Spiritual Attacks!

(Vs) Gal. 5:19-21 ESV – “Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.”

- These two approaches to “Encountering Dragons” are woven all throughout scripture.
- They are taught over and over by the Holy Spirit, so that we may know how it is God walks with us during these difficult times.

A wonderful example of these Two Dragon encounters is found in...

- 2nd Kings Ch. 6 ESV – “Elisha and his Servant”
- (Vs) 2nd Kings 6:8-11 - Back Story – Israel is being invaded by the Syrians
- (Vs) 2nd Kings 6:12-15 - “Oh Master, what shall we do?... A Dragon's Opposing Us!”
- (Vs) 2nd Kings 6:16-17 - Have Eyes to see... “God is for Us!”
- (Vs) 2nd Kings 6:18-21 – God shall defeat and Tame... “All Dragons are Overcome”
- (Vs) 2nd Kings 6:22-23 – Conquered for Glory... “A Dragon lays beside me!”

In the same way, you defeat darkness by feeding it light...

“We defeat the Dragons in our lives not by battling them through our own strength, but by feeding them the Power of God.”

This is what Jeremiah the Prophet is proclaiming...

*(Vs) Jeremiah 51:34, 36-37, 39-40 KJV – “Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon hath devoured me, he hath crushed me, he hath made me an empty vessel, he hath swallowed me up like a dragon, he hath filled his belly with my delicates, he hath cast me out... **36** Therefore thus saith the Lord; Behold, I will plead thy cause, and take vengeance for thee; and I will dry up her sea, and make her springs dry. **37** And Babylon shall become heaps, a dwelling-place for dragons, an astonishment, and a hissing, without an inhabitant... **39** In their heat I will make their feasts, and I will make them drunken, that they may rejoice, and sleep a perpetual sleep, and not wake, saith the Lord. **40** I will bring them down like lambs to the slaughter, like rams with the goats.”*

This is why we praise Him... because we have the Victory no matter the Dragons in front of us!