Job #37 (Job Chapter 41)

I. Let us Look at verses 1 - 10

A. Chapter 40 dealt with the behemoth, chapter 41 with the Leviathan
   1. Like the behemoth, there is no clear agreement on what Leviathan is
      a. Some say whale, some say crocodile, some say extinct creature
      b. Some look at it as allegorical and referring to Satan - Isaiah 27:1
   2. Word comes from base Hebrew word meaning "Joined" or "united"
      a. Same root word from which comes "Levi" - Genesis 29:34
      b. Probably one of creatures referred to in Gen. 1:21 (Ps.104:26)
   3. Behemoth may be greatest land creature and Leviathan greatest sea
      a. If can't comprehend these creatures, how can we comprehend God

B. Verses 1-5 describe this beast in terms of its ferocity
   1. It isn't easily captured, won't beg for life, won't make deal
   2. In creation man was given dominion over all the creatures- Gen. 1:26
      a. This dominion was reinforced after the flood - Gen. 9:1, 2

C. V. 4 teaches us that those thinking themselves strong don't need prayer
   1. Those who believe in their own power-Jer. 10:25; Pr. 18:23; Rev. 3:17

D. Vs 6-10- beast is described in degree of difficulty of capturing it
   1. V. 9- Speaks of hopes being laid low- it can happen three ways
      a. Haggai 1:9- Hope for much and it comes to little
      b. Luke 5:5- Hope for much and receive nothing
      c. Jer. 8:15; Isaiah 5:2 - hope for good and receive hurt

E. Verse 10-God argues from lesser to greater - from creature to Creator

II. Let us Look at end of chapter, particularly verses 10 and 11

A. If can't stand before Leviathan, how could we stand before God
   1. Josh. 1:5 (can't stand before men) how much more God (Mal. 3:1,2)
   2. Only standing before God is in righteousness of Christ, not ours
      a. Phil. 3:4, 9 - 11; Zechariah 3:1 - 7; Rom. 10:1 - 4
      b. Like Joshua we are all clothed in filthy rags- Is. 64:6
   3. Must have the wedding garment of Christ-Mat. 22:11-13; Ps. 132:16

B. Verse 11 may be quoted in New Testament - Romans 11:35
   1. God asking who it was that aided Him in creation of Leviathan

C. Impossible to really give to God since all we have is God's
   1. Ps. 24:1; Psalm 50:12; Acts 17:27, 28

D. V. 11 may also be translated as "who has preceded Me" - God is first
   1. This is true in salvation - God must first work regeneration

III. Let us Look at Some Lessons from This Chapter

A. Most important that man be convince of power of God - I Sam. 6:20
   1. This is really Paul's argument in Romans 9 (verses 18 - 20)

B. Good thing to study creation to understand Creator (Ps. 104:24-26)

C. God has several relationships to Creation - not just the Creator
   1. He sustains all things- Heb. 1:3; Preserves them - Matt. 6:30
   2. Also as Redeemer has effect on creation- I Timothy 4:10

D. Be careful in speaking of our possessions as our own- Acts 4:32
   1. Ultimately all things belong to God- I Cor. 6:19, 20; Haggai 2:8

E. Though we may fear creature, must be more fearful of Creator-Mt. 10:28