

# **Biblical Monsters**

**\*Are there really “monsters” in the Bible and what does the word of Yahovah say about them?**

**\*Are “monsters” real or spiritual or both?**

**\*What do ancient sources say about “monsters”?**

**\*Are “monsters” good or bad?**

# INHERITING LIES

J E R R Y M I T C H E L L



# Monsters

**Strong's# H8577**

**Tanniyn**

**תַּנְיִן**

**A marine or land monster, i.e. sea-serpent or jackal- dragon, sea-monster, serpent whale.**

**To understand biblical  
monsters-**

**consider**

**creation and the sea...**



**\*In the near east in particular Israel, legends of monsters were prevalent**

**\*Ugaritic epics tell about the enemies of Baal, Mot his chief foe- the lord of the sea, and other “monsters”- Dragon, Leviathan, the Fleeing Serpent and the Twisting Serpent and others.**

**\*In scripture, sea monsters are depicted as in revolt of their creator.**

# Article Of First Mention

## Genesis 1:21

And Elohim created great *whales(tanniyn)* and every living creature that moves, which the waters brought forth abundantly, after their kind and every winged fowl after his kind, and Elohim saw that it was good

**In scripture, sea monsters are depicted as in  
revolt of their creator**

**Isaiah 27:1**

**In that day Yahovah with His hard and great  
strong sword will punish Leviathan, the fleeing  
serpent, Leviathan the twisting serpent, and He  
will slay the Dragon that is in the sea.**

**Other accounts of creation...**



# Ugarit

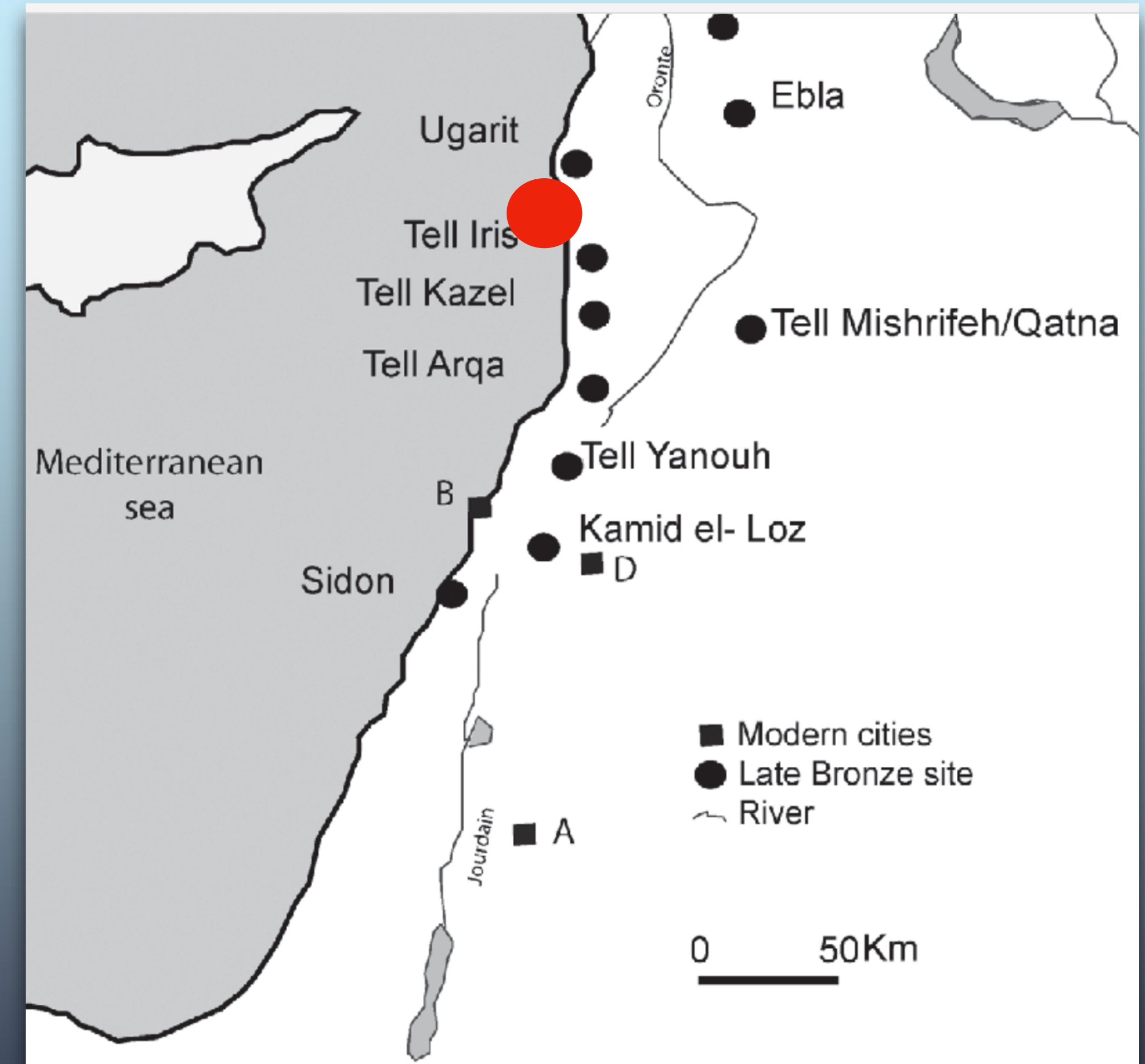
**\*Discovered in 1929**

**\*One of greatest discoveries of the 20th century**

**\*Tablets discovered that tell of daily life**

**\*30 letter alphabet discovered**

**\*Tablets tell of creation and the struggle of gods (monsters) in ancient myths**



# **The Creation Story In Mesopotamian Mythology\***

**\*The god Marduk (other versions names vary) vanquished Tiamat the goddess of the world ocean**

**\*Tiamat is depicted as a mighty sea monster as well as other monstrosities she created**

**\*After Marduk vanquished Tiamat, his chief enemy, he cut her carcass and divided it in 2 halves and laid one on top of the other. One half was called heaven and the other half earth.**

## **Greek Account**

**The priest Berossus summarized the creation story**

**\*The god Bel (Marduk) sliced the body of Thamte (Tiamat) into two one called earth and the other half heavens.**

**The Canaanite written traditions are very similar**

**Genesis 1:7**

**7) And God made the firmament and divided the waters which were under the firmament from the waters which were above the firmament: and it was so**

**However...**

**The Torah negates every one of the mythologies and stands in opposition to mythologies...**

**The Torah is clear that the rebellion of the sea (Monsters) alludes to the boundaries of the waters of the sea.**

## **Jeremiah 5:22**

**I placed the sand as the bound for  
the sea, a perpetual barrier which it  
cannot pass, though the waves  
toss, they cannot prevail, though  
they roar, they cannot prevail.**

## **Isaiah 51:9-10**

**9) Awake, awake put on strength o arm of Yahovah, awake as in the ancient days, in the generations of old. Art thou not it that hath cut Rahab, and wounded the dragon?**

**10) Art thou not it which that dried the sea, the waters of the great deep, that hath made the depths of the sea a way for the ransomed to pass over?**



## **Proverbs 8:27-29**

**When He established the heavens, I  
was there when He drew a circle on  
the face of the deep, when He  
assigned to the sea its limit, so that  
the *waters might not transgress*  
His command.**

# **Psalms 74:13**

**Thou didst divide the sea  
by thy strength, thou brake  
the heads of the dragons in  
the waters.**

## **Psalms 104:7-9**

**At thy rebuke they (the waters of the deep) fled, at the sound of Thy rebuke they took to flight. The mountains rose, the valleys sank down to the place which Thou didst appoint for them. Thou didst set a bound which they should not pass, so that they might not again cover the earth.**

## **Job 9:13**

**Yahovah will not turn back His  
anger, beneath Him bowed the  
helpers of Rahab.**

**One of these is not like the  
other**

Leviathan

Behemoth

Pharaohs  
Serpents

Rahab



# Rahab

(Not the one  
from Jerico)

**Strong's #H7294**  
**An epithet of Egypt**





# **3 Biblical References**

## **Psalms 89:9-10**

**9) Thou rulest the raging of the sea, when the waves thereof arise, thou stillest them**

**10) Thou hast broken Rahab in pieces, as one that is slain, thou hast scattered thine enemies with thy strong arm.**

## **Isaiah 51:9-10**

**9) Awake, Awake put on strength, O arm of Yahovah, Awake as is the ancient days, in the generations of old. Art thou not it that hath cut Rahab and wounded the dragon?**

**10) Art thou not it which hath dried the sea, the waters of the great deep, that hath made the depths of the sea a way for the ransomed to pass over?**

# **Job: 26:12**

**He divides the sea with his  
power, and by his  
understanding he smites  
through the proud (Rahab)**

# Rahab

- \*Name represents Egypt**
- \*Jewish literature depicts Rahab as a demon**
- \*Term used for the Abyss**
- \*Signifies pride and arrogance**
- \*Bears significant resemblance to the Babylonian god Leviathan**

**Rahab is often identified with Leviathan...**



# Leviathan

**Strong's # H3882**

**A wreathed animal, a serpent  
figuratively, the constellation of  
the dragon**



# **Biblical References**

## **Job 41:1**

**Canst thou draw out leviathan with an  
hook? Or his tongue with a cord which  
thou lettest down?**

## **Psalms 74:14**

**Thou brakest the heads of leviathan in  
pieces, and gavest him to be meat to the  
people inhabiting the wilderness**



## **Psalms 104: 26**

**There go the ships: there is that leviathan,  
whom thou hast made to play therein.**

## **Isaiah 27:1**

**In that day Yahovah with his sore and  
great and strong sword shall punish  
leviathan the piercing serpent, even  
leviathan that crooked serpent, and he  
shall slay *the dragon that is in the sea.***

# Leviathan

- \*A monster in the sea**
- \*Some associate Leviathan the multi headed sea serpent (Psalms 74:14), with the beast in Revelation 13.**
- \*Often seen as a symbol of chaos and wild untamed forces**
- \*Leviathan has no fear of anyone (Job 41:33)**
- \*Associated with demons and pride (Job 41:34)**
- \*Arrows cannot hurt him**
- \*Has scales or “flakes of flesh”**

**\*His breath kindles coals (breaths fire)**

**\*His nose and eyes shine**

**\*Heart is as firm as stone**

**\*The mighty are afraid of him**

**\*Iron is like straw to him**

**Leviathan is often referred to as the serpent...**

# Pharaoh's Serpents



# Pharaoh's Serpents

## Exodus 7:10-12

9) When Pharaoh shall speak unto you saying, Shew a miracle for you then thou shalt say unto Aaron, take thy rod and cast it before Pharaoh and it shall become a serpent (*tanniyn*)

10) And Moses and Aaron went in unto Pharaoh and they did so as Yahovah had commanded, and Aaron cast down his rod before Pharaoh, and before his servants, and it became a serpent (*tanniyn*)

11) Then Pharaoh also called the wise men and the sorcerers" now the magicians of Egypt, they also did in like manner with their enchantments

12) For they cast down every man his rod and they became serpents (*tanniyn*), but Aaron's rod swallowed up their rods

**Often serpents are compared  
to dragons**

**Deuteronomy 32:33**

**Their wine is the poison of  
dragons(tanniyn) and the cruel  
venom of asps.**



# **Behemoth**

**Strong's #H930**

**Of Egyptian  
derivation: a water-  
ox, hippopotamus**



# **Biblical References**

## **Job 40:15-24**

**15) Behold now Behemoth which I made with thee, he eats grass as an ox.**

**16) Lo his strength is in his loins, and his force is in the navel of his belly.**

**17) He moves his tail like a cedar, the sinews of his stones are wrapped together.**

**18) His bones are as strong pieces of brass, his bones are like bars of iron.**

## Continued...

**19) He is the *chief of the ways of God*, he  
that made him can make his sword to  
approach unto him**

**20) Surely the mountains bring him forth  
food, where all the beasts of the field play**

**21) He liveth under the shady trees, in the  
covert of the reed, and fens.**

# Continued...

**22) The shady trees cover him with their shadow, the willows of the brook compass him about.**

**23) Behold he drinks up a river and hastes not, he trusts that he can draw up Jordan into his mouth.**

**24) He takes it with his eyes, his nose pierces throughout snares.**



# Behemoth

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Cross

Nail

Mighty

Behold

House

Behold the house of the mighty nail of  
the covenant

# **Death of the “Monsters”**

**Psalms 89:10**

**Thou hast broken Rahab in pieces,  
as on that is slain, thou hast  
scattered thine enemies with thy  
strong arm.**

## **Isaiah 51:9-10**

**Awake, awake put on strength, O arm of Yahovah, awake as in the ancient days, in the generations of old. Art thou not it that hath cut Rahab and wounded the dragon?**

**10) Art thou not it which hath dried the sea, the waters of the great deep, that hath made the depths of the sea a way for the ransomed to pass over?**

# Leviathan

## Ezekiel 29:4

**But 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.**



# **Pharaoh's Serpents**

**Exodus 7:12**

**For they cast down every man his rod, and they became serpents, but Aaron's rod swallowed up their rods.**

**The death of Behemoth  
is never mentioned  
in scripture.**

## **Revelation 20:2-3**

**2) and he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years**

**3) and cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled, and after that he must be loosed a little season.**

## **Revelation 20:10**

**And the devil that deceived them was  
cast into the lake of fire and  
brimstone, where the beast and the  
false prophet are and shall be  
tormented day and night forever  
and ever.**

**Only then will eternal shalom**

**The word of Yahovah is  
literary art**

**However...**

**The word of Yahovah is  
literally true.**