

May 3, 2020

The Rev. Dr. Morar Murray-Hayes



Reading: Job 39-41

[Video](#)

The Message: Ridiculous in Our Eyes

Job is a good man, who feels richly blessed by God. He is accused of worshipping God only because he has been so richly blessed.

But then he loses all that he has.

His friends tell him he must have done something wrong to be punished so badly.

Job knows he hasn't, and is left alone, his wealth and family gone, covered in boils, sitting on a pile of dung.

For 37 chapters he rails against God: "Why me, O Lord?"

And how does God answer? With a question, of course. Actually, with 47 questions -- all asking Job can he explain the mysteries of creation?

And then, hidden in the questions, God answers, telling Job of two monstrous beasts -- Leviathan - perhaps a kind of giant crocodile and Behemoth, perhaps an immense hippopotamus -- and that is supposed to be an answer to Job's plaintive question, "Why is this happening to me?"

We don't understand. We can't control. But better to laugh at the quirky aspects of God's creation than to uselessly pound away at that old question, "WHY?"

The mystery of God includes humour.

And God's humour includes the ability to create odd looking birds like the ostrich.

And there is a tradition that God created Leviathan and Behemoth just to play with in the cool of the evening.

And what would a Holy Humour service be without a charming animal video? Thanks to Mike Giguere and Gail McDiarmid for this next video and following that, a favourite shared with me by a retired colleague and friend.