

About the whale of the prophet Jonah

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From the German book “Himmelsgaben”



As to the whale, it contains both natural history and spiritual truth; for it must be that one as well as the other is correct, because without this truth or without the natural historical support the spiritual would have no equivalent.

However, to understand the natural part of history one must know that once upon a time there was a type of giant fish, mainly in the Mediterranean Sea, which was called Leviathan by the Egyptians, and by the Greeks living at the time of the well known author Herodotus it was called Phalos. This type of fish, which is also mentioned in the book of Job (chapter 41), disappeared completely from the sea soon after the opening of this sea (by Gibraltar) and was scattered in the Atlantic Ocean through its powerful currents to the south. Here they died out mostly due to the cold waters or were killed by equally large land animals.

To begin with, this giant fish had an enormously large jaw which was connected to an equally large stomach by a wide opening. They had no teeth and no tongue, but had a large number of fins, just like the current whales in the north. The fins of a completely fully grown Phalos typically reached a length of two to three Klafter¹ (12 – 18 feet or 3.8 – 5.7 meter long) and in addition served the giant fish like the trunk of an elephant.

They seized their prey with these fins and pushed it totally intact into their large stomach which contained no water, but instead oozed

¹ Old Austrian measure.

out a type of juice from the internal walls. This kind of sap began to dissolve the living prey after a few days and little by little broke down the muck.

This giant fish was also a mammal and flung live young ones into the world, as well breathed the same way as the present northern whales by frequently sustaining itself on the ocean surface in order not to suffocate. A large amount of very giant sharks served to seize this giant fish that entered and naturalized themselves also at that time in the northern region of the Mediterranean Sea when the current strait, as you now know it, from Constantinople¹ and the Dardanelles² broke through the Deucalion³ isthmus. These magnificent ocean predators began an intense hunt on the large Phalos, biting off their fins and their other significant extremities, such as their large breasts as well as the hand-like fins on either side of them.

These extremities served the sharks very well as nourishment and this caused the Phalos to take flight more and more. Soon they became a rare sight in the Mediterranean Sea, and at the time of Jonah there were scarcely more than a couple of hundred animals still at home. And Jonah, when he was thrown over board in a raging sea, still had – through my arrangement – the good fortune, to be devoured by such a Phalos and thus spend three days in the stomach of the fish. Furthermore I also arranged that only this Phalos was pursued by a shark and sought refuge to this low lying shore of Asia (Minor) where it coughed up his food in its stomach. This was a characteristic of these giant fish which climbed onto land when they smelled a great danger in the water or around their young ones, which they usually raised at a shallow sea shore and where they visited and supplied them with nourishment either with breast milk or also with living prey stored in their stomach. For they would not let their young calves into the deeper sea until they had reached a certain size, power and strength.

And so on this occasion our Jonah also came to this Asian coast, and after being spewed out from the Phalos at the shallow shore, as

¹ Today called Istanbul.

² From the Aegean Sea through the Dardanelles to the Marmara Denizi Sea.

³ Deucalion = Greek name for Noah; read Greek mythology; also known as The Flood.

just described, he quickly gathered himself and fled completely onto land where neither the old Phalos nor one of its four young calves was able to further pursue him.

There you have a representation of the natural part of history as it was at that time, and now and for a very long time no longer exist.

In the former museums, especially in Alexandria, one could still find remnants of ribs from this once giant fish, however in later time they were destroyed by the Saracen¹ just as the books were. Though several small pieces are still located today in London and in Paris, and are thought to be skeleton parts from either past huge land or water animals. Although speculation has it that they originated from water animals because they are usually found on sandy stretches close to the sea. A main rib of a fully grown Phalos often measured five to seven Klaftern (30 – 42 feet or 9.5 – 13.3 m) and weighed twenty to thirty Centner². Presently, as I already mentioned, this type of giant fish as well as other large land animals have become completely extinct, and for about three thousand years none can be found anymore.

One should not mistake this Phalos or Leviathan with certain colossal Kraken³, that then and now moved along in the Atlantic Ocean, especially in the area in which prior to the well-known Flood, the row of West African islands reached all the way to the eastern tip of today's Brazil in a fairly straight line, and where today you still find large and long-drawn-out sandbanks which emerge and become often dangerous to smaller ships.

This giant Kraken is absolutely not a fish, but only a most magnificent ocean-polyp, that matures in the sand banks and its mud deposits as shown in marine photos. It stays put on the ocean floor until it is brought to the surface by an underwater eruption and then often looks like a swimming little island.

We have come to the end with our story about the hard to believe whale fish of the Mediterranean Sea. Everything else about this prophet can be found by everyone in the Bible. ...

¹ The term Saracen comes from the Greek *Saracen*, which is itself derived from the Arabic word meaning "easterners".

² A unit of weight in Germany corresponding to 50 kg (110.23 pounds).

³ Giant octopus.