

Doctrine of Dragon

1. At least one dragon is red in color.
 - *Revelation 12:3 And there appeared another wonder in heaven; and behold a great red dragon, having seven heads and ten horns, and seven crowns upon his heads.*

2. Dragons are described.
 - Powerful. *Revelation 12:4 And his tail drew the third part of the stars of heaven, and did cast them to the earth: and the dragon stood before the woman which was ready to be delivered, for to devour her child as soon as it was born.*
 - Poisonous. *Deuteronomy 32:33 Their wine is the poison of dragons, and the cruel venom of asps.*
 - Of solitary habits. *Job 30:29 I am a brother to dragons, and a companion to owls.*
 - Its mournful voice is alluded to. *Micah 1:8 Therefore I will wail and howl, I will go stripped and naked: I will make a wailing like the dragons, and mourning as the owls.*
 - Its wailing alluded to. *Micah 1:8 Therefore I will wail and howl, I will go stripped and naked: I will make a wailing like the dragons, and mourning as the owls.*
 - Its snuffing up the air alluded to. *Jeremiah 14:6 And the wild asses did stand in the high places, they snuffed up the wind like dragons; their eyes did fail, because there was no grass.*
 - Its swallowing of its prey alluded to. *Jeremiah 51:34 Nebuchadrezzar 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.*

3. Dragons are found in various places.
 - The wilderness. *Malachi 1:3 And I hated Esau, and laid his mountains and his heritage waste for the dragons of the wilderness.*
 - Deserted cities.
 - ❖ *Isaiah 13:22 And the wild beasts of the islands shall cry in their desolate houses, and dragons in their pleasant palaces: and her time is near to come, and her days shall not be prolonged.*

- ❖ *Jeremiah 9:11 And I will make Jerusalem heaps, and a den of dragons; and I will make the cities of Judah desolate, without an inhabitant.*
 - Dry places.
 - ❖ *Isaiah 34:13 And thorns shall come up in her palaces, nettles and brambles in the fortresses thereof: and it shall be an habitation of dragons, and a court for owls.*
 - ❖ *Isaiah 43:20 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.*
 - A species of, in rivers.
 - ❖ *Psalms 74:13 Thou didst divide the sea by thy strength: thou brakest the heads of the dragons in the waters.*
 - ❖ *Isaiah 27:1 In that day the Lord 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.*
4. Dragons illustrate a variety of people.
- Dragons illustrate cruel and persecuting kings.
 - ❖ *Isaiah 27:1 In that day the Lord 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.*
 - ❖ *Isaiah 51:9 Awake, awake, put on strength, O arm of the Lord; awake, as in the ancient days, in the generations of old. Art thou not it that hath cut Rahab, and wounded the dragon?*
 - Dragons illustrate wicked people.
 - ❖ *Psalms 44:19 Though thou hast sore broken us in the place of dragons, and covered us with the shadow of death.*
5. The devil himself is presented as a dragon.
- ❖ *Revelation 13:2 And the beast which I saw was like unto a leopard, and his feet were as the feet of a bear, and his mouth as the mouth of a lion: and the dragon gave him his power, and his seat, and great authority.*
 - ❖ *Revelation 20:2 And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years, 7 And when the thousand years are expired, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison”*

6. Dragons are poisonous.

❖ *Deuteronomy 32:33 Their wine is the poison of dragons, and the cruel venom of asps.*

7. Some confusion over what constitutes a dragon is due in part because of a mistranslation. In the Old Testament the KJV uses the term “dragon” for the Hebrew words *tannim* meaning “jackals” and *tannin* meaning “serpent, or sea monster.” It seems the KJV mistranslated these two separate words.

- *Tannim* is from the root *tan* meaning “to howl” and *tannin* is from the root *tanan* “to smoke.” Jackals are known for their howling, and are associated with desolate areas.
- *Tannin* or “smokers” probably came from seeing the spouts of whales or the snorting of animals which looked like smoke coming from a fire inside. Our warm breath in winter looks like smoke. This is probably how the idea of fire-breathing dragons started. The Hebrew is not referring to any dinosaurs.

8. The KJV uses the term “dragon” which comes from the Greek word *drakon* which means “serpent.” It refers to a monster with a scaly snake-like body.

9. The Greek New Testament uses *drakon* 12 times only in the book of Revelation which the KJV translates as “dragon”.

❖ *Revelation 12:3 And there appeared another wonder in heaven; and behold a great red dragon, having seven heads and ten horns, and seven crowns upon his heads.*

❖ *Revelation 12:4 And his tail drew the third part of the stars of heaven, and did cast them to the earth: and the dragon stood before the woman which was ready to be delivered, for to devour her child as soon as it was born.*

❖ *Revelation 12:7 And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels,*

❖ *Revelation 12:9 And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.*

❖ *Revelation 12:13 And when the dragon saw that he was cast unto the earth, he persecuted the woman which brought forth the man child.*

❖ *Revelation 12:16 And the earth helped the woman, and the earth opened her mouth, and swallowed up the flood which the dragon cast out of his mouth.*

❖ *Revelation 12:17 And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.*

- ❖ *Revelation 13:2 And the beast which I saw was like unto a leopard, and his feet were as the feet of a bear, and his mouth as the mouth of a lion: and the dragon gave him his power, and his seat, and great authority.*
 - ❖ *Revelation 13:4 And they worshipped the dragon which gave power unto the beast: and they worshipped the beast, saying, Who is like unto the beast? Who is able to make war with him?*
 - ❖ *Revelation 13:11 And I beheld another beast coming up out of the earth; and he had two horns like a lamb, and he spake as a dragon.*
 - ❖ *Revelation 16:13 And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs come out of the mouth of the dragon, and out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet.*
 - ❖ *Revelation 20:2 And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years,*
10. The dragon in Revelation has seven heads similar to the leviathan found in Ugaritic literature of Syria and Psalm 74:14.
- ❖ *Psalms 74:14 Thou brakest the heads of leviathan in pieces, and gavest him to be meat to the people inhabiting the wilderness.*
11. Satan is called a “dragon” in Revelation 20:2.
- ❖ *Revelation 20:2 And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years,*