

translated as "piece of the side". Now that is pretty hard to prove one way or the other. It is the word which is used for "a rib" but all the Hebrew we have is our Hebrew Bible. There is no other Hebrew to base it on. Now you hear the word "rib" today and you want to know exactly what is meant by a rib. You can easily ask people and find out that it is a word which we use for a bone, for a particular type of bone. Just how much anatomical knowledge the Hebrews had at the time of the writing of the Scripture is one thing, but that is not the real problem. The real problem is, "How did they use this particular word?" Did the word indicate simply a particular bone or did it indicate a part of the side such as a rib would be? I definitely does mean a rib but whether it has the larger sense of meaning a part of the side or not is something that it would be rather difficult to prove. If you read that, a dog, for instance, was eating a bone, why, you could say, "Well, he wouldn't eat the bone, it would be the flesh, it would involve more, and yet we speak of a dog as having a bone to eat when what he is eating is what he gets off the bone, so it doesn't prove it so well one way or the other and I doubt if that particular usage occurs in the Scripture anyway. That is, of course, one great difficulty in the use of words, to prove exactly how large the sense included in them is. You have to have often a great number of cases. You especially have to have a great number to prove a negative, to prove it doesn't include a particular thing, while the positive may be proven by one good case, but I don't know of a case which definitely proves that it means more than a rib. We must say, of course, that the precise details of this whole thing we cannot expect to understand in full. We certainly don't understand some of the simpler matters of the human body and how God created it, there certainly is a tremendous amount that we don't understand at all, and here we have a story told--we'll say that everything in the story is certainly definitely true but that there is much more to it than