

CREATION MOMENTS

Proclaiming Evidence for Truth

THIS WEEK'S CREATION MOMENT

Nature's Shark Repellant



Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour... (1 Peter 5:8)

Over the centuries, humans have tried different strategies to protect themselves from sharks. Most shark repellents don't work. But scientists have learned, from a lowly fish no less, that repelling a shark is as simple as

washing his mouth out with soap – released from a squirt gun, of course.

The Moses sole, a slow-swimming, apparently defenseless little fish, lives in the Red Sea. What puzzled scientists was that such seemingly easy prey never seemed to be bothered by predators. Researchers wanted to know what the Moses sole's secret was, so they offered one to sharks in a laboratory tank, knowing that sharks will eat anything. Sure enough, the sharks grabbed the Moses sole, but just as quickly, they let it go. More study showed that the sole releases a milky, detergent-like substance from the pores in its skin. As soon as the shark got a little of the detergent in its mouth, it wanted nothing more to do with the sole.

While the sole's detergent is poisonous, researchers found that it's the detergent and not the poison that drives sharks away. They have found that a commercially available detergent works even better than the sole's defense.

Just as the shark cannot be tamed, neither can our sinful deeds. This is why God encourages us to stay away from opportunities to sin. He doesn't want us to suffer the necessary consequences of sin.

Ref: Discover, July 1985, p. 38. Photo: Red Sea Moses sole. Courtesy of Victor Cebollada. Licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 3.0 Unported license. (CC BY-SA 4.0)

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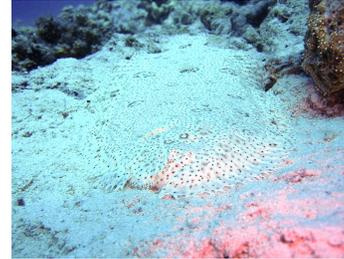
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