

《論 文》

Learning from the Bible about My Studies Related to Business

— Mainly from the Torah —

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Introduction

I assume God is all or all possibilities of all existence. All that contains nature will continue forever with always varying from hour to hour. We cannot understand all. God may symbolize what we cannot understand. And I think God is the existence that lives with us.

I will quote from the Bible the economical parts. And just under them I will interpret them logically and actually, thinking about how messages they give for our modern societies. I am happy that the descriptions will be helpful for God. And also we may be able to identify the similar teachings from different points of view. It is important for us to try to understand and accept other people in the earth. We should obey today's rules. And I oppose all discrimination. I will use Today's English Version for the quotations from the Bible.

I will use mostly the Torah in this article.

Genesis 1

1 In the beginning, when God created the universe,

2 the earth was formless and desolate. The raging ocean that covered

everything was engulfed in total darkness, and the Spirit of God was moving over the water.

3 Then God commanded, “Let there be light” —and light appeared.

4 God was pleased with what he saw. Then he separated the light from the darkness,

5 and he named the light “Day” and the darkness “Night.” Evening passed and morning came—that was the first day.

I think that bright words make an organization with a dark situation in chaos.

We can have the thought that all does not begin with ourselves.

Genesis 2

17 except the tree that gives knowledge of what is good and what is bad. You must not eat the fruit of that tree; if you do, you will die the same day.”

We can give value judgments with our knowledge and can decide the right or wrong by our judgments. It is quite attractive. We can also do something that does not follow God. On the other hand, we have the characteristic that will die someday. Sometimes we must not do our judgments of what is good and what is bad.

Genesis 3

21 And the LORD God made clothes out of animal skins for Adam and his wife, and he clothed them.

The LORD God pronounces that we have sin but gives us our clothes. The LORD God chooses and supports hopeless us. When I have my clothes, I thank the persons who produced them and the LORD God. I think that we should thank what are given by the LORD God and go to the next step by using them.

When we learn from the LORD God, it may be desirable for us to give our kindness in our strictness.

Genesis 3

22 Then the LORD God said, “Now these human beings have become like one of us and have knowledge of what is good and what is bad. They must not be allowed to take fruit from the tree that gives life, eat it, and live forever.”

23 So the LORD God sent them out of the Garden of Eden and made them cultivate the soil which they had been formed.

Crimes are the heaviest sins. And as a lighter sin we may “have knowledge of what is good and what is bad.”

We may have divergence from the center of the universe.

Genesis 4

4 Then Abel brought the first lamb born to one of his sheep, killed it, and gave the best parts of it as an offering. The LORD was pleased with Abel and his offering,

5 but he rejected Cain and his offering. Cain became furious, and he scowled in anger.

We may sometimes need to allow it even if a person does not move as we think.

Genesis 4

15 But the LORD answered, "No. If anyone kills you, seven lives will be taken in revenge." So the LORD put a mark on Cain to warn anyone who met him not to kill him.

Cain murdered Abel. It is very heavy crime. He admitted that his sin was very heavy and despaired. But even in such a case the LORD protected his life. The LORD seemed to be such an existence and work in that way.

Genesis 5

1 This is the list of the descendants of Adam.

(When God created human beings, he made them like himself.

2 He created them male and female, blessed them, and named them "Human Beings.")

Actually a person cannot live for many years like this chapter. But we can feel that we live after very long time and each of us is not a big existence.

Each of us may be connected to our ancestors by the genes.

Genesis 8

21 The odor of the sacrifice pleased the LORD, and he said to himself, "Never again will I put the earth under a curse because of what

people do; I know that from the time they are young their thoughts are evil. Never again will I destroy all living beings, as I have done this time.

God is severe with human beings but keeps us alive.

Genesis 11 The Tower of Babylon

1 At first, the people of the whole world had only one language and used the same words.

2 As they wandered about in the East, they came to a plain in Babylonia and settled there.

3 They said to one another, "Come on! Let's make bricks and bake them hard." So they had bricks to build with and tar to hold them together.

4 They said, "Now let's build a city with a tower that reaches the sky, so that we can make a name that reaches the sky, so that we can make a name for ourselves and not be scattered all over the earth."

5 Then the LORD came down to see the city and the tower which they had built,

6 and he said, "Now then, these are all one people and they speak one language; this is just the beginning of what they are going to do. Soon they will be able to do anything they want!

7 Let us go down and mix up their language so that they will not understand each other."

8 So the LORD scattered them all over the earth, and they stopped building the city.

9 The city was called Babylon, because there the LORD mixed up the

language of all the people, and from there he scattered them all over the earth.

I think that too much wealth and power should not concentrate on one place. If they centralize on one place too much, it may be impossible for us to communicate our intentions to each other. For only one will is allowed. We do not need to be going to become one forcibly.

Genesis 32

29 The man said, “Your name will no longer be Jacob. You have struggled with God and with men, and you have won; so your name will be Israel.”

In the Bible the name “Israel” appears here for the first time.

We need our spirit not losing to everything.

My Opinions about the Communications with God

The dialogues with God are described in the Bible. They are the communications with God. They may be to wonder to oneself from wide horizon. And they may be to consider carefully. For example, Moses governs people without making only himself God.

Through prayer we thank God obediently. We do not put too much confidence in our human abilities. We also think about invisible things. We think about what we really want to do. We do what meets the heart of God. The process of praying is the road to prosperity.

22 Finally the king issued a command to all his people: “Take every newborn Hebrew boy and throw him into the Nile, but let all the girls live.”

Exodus 2 The Birth of Moses

1 During this time a man from the tribe of Levi married a woman of his own tribe,

2 and she bore him a son. When she saw what a fine baby he was, she hid him for three months.

3 But when she could not hide him any longer, she took a basket made of reeds and covered it with tar to make it watertight. She put the baby in it and then placed it in the tall grass at the edge of the river.

4 The baby’s sister stood some distance away to see what would happen to him.

5 The king’s daughter came down to the river to bathe, while her servants walked along the bank. Suddenly she noticed the basket in the tall grass and sent a slave woman to get it.

6 The princess opened it and saw a baby boy. He was crying, and she felt sorry for him. “This is one of the Hebrew babies,” she said.

7 Then his sister asked her, “Shall I go and call a Hebrew woman to nurse the baby for you?”

8 “Please do,” she answered. So the girl went and brought the baby’s own mother.

9 The princess told the woman, “Take this baby and nurse him for me, and I will pay you.” So she took the baby and nursed him.

10 Later, when the child was old enough, she took him to the king’s daughter, who adopted him as her own son. She said to herself, “I pulled him out of the water, and so I name him Moses.”

The Israelites were persecuted under the new king of Egypt. For he feared that the Israelites might increase and acquire power. So the Egyptians imposed hard labor on the Israelites. The cities were established but there were the persons who had to do severe labor.

In the time Moses was born as a child of the slaves. He was protected by the king's daughter. She did a very nice act. The Egyptians did not necessarily agree to the king's command. Later Moses lead the Israelites and left Egypt for Cannan.

Such the story came from such the gap-widening society between the king and the slaves.

My Opinions about Exodus 7 ~ 11

Because the king does not free the Israelites from slave labor rigidly, the LORD punished by the evil. It was relieved when the king apologized. But when the king remained as stubborn as ever and would not let them go, the LORD punished by the other evil again. After the last evil, the king asked them to leave Egypt.

Slave labor is not good. It is told that after such labor was happened, such a scenario was repeated by the LORD.

Exodus 13 Dedication of the First-Born

1 The LORD said to Moses,

2 "Dedicate all the first-born males to me, for every first-born male Israelite and every first-born male animal belongs to me."

Dedication of the First-Born is spoken here. The LORD commanded to offer various sacrifices at the other passages. All is not our

possessions. We cannot rule all perfectly. We may be able to say the same thing about the factor of production such as the land or the capital.

Exodus 16

13 In the evening a large flock of quails flew in, enough to cover the camp, and in the morning there was dew all around the camp.

It is not thought that the material of the bread really falls from the sky. But only we can not make the food. Originally the food is given from nature.

Exodus 20 The Ten Commandments

1 God spoke, and these were his words:

We also should obey the laws in today.

Exodus 20

4 "Do not make for yourselves images of anything in heaven or on earth or in the water under the earth.

5 Do not bow down to any idol or worship it, because I am the LORD your God and I tolerate no rivals. I bring punishment on those who hate me and on their descendants down to the third and fourth generation.

I think that we must not regard any part of all as too much great and must not be slaves of it too much.

It is told that the attitude toward God influences the descendants. Our behaviors will influence the later situations.

We want to aim to acquire any necessary goods and service without surplus. We can get balance if we do everything moderately.

I think that it is necessary not to fix a value judgment too much for the evolution.

Exodus 23

12 “Work six days a week, but do no work on the seventh day, so that your slaves and the foreigners who work for you and even your animals can rest.

I think that there should not be slaves.

When we work, the other existences must work together and be sometimes sacrificed. The holiday is the day when we ourselves rest, but it is also the day to have the other existences rest.

Leviticus 19

9 “When you harvest your fields, do not cut the grain at the edges of the fields, and do not go back to cut the heads of grain that were left.

10 Do not go back through your vineyard to gather the grapes that were missed or to pick up the grapes that have fallen; leave them for poor people and foreigners. I am the LORD your God.

We do not monopolize the harvest but it may be important for us to leave it for others.

Leviticus 19

18 Do not take revenge on others or continue to hate them, but love your neighbors as you love yourself. I am the LORD.

“Love your neighbors as you love yourself.” seems to be the greatest commandment.

Numbers 28

18 On the first day of the festival you are to gather for worship, and no work is to be done.

The LORD commanded to make the day that people did not work and offered the offering to the LORD.

Deuteronomy 1

43 I told you what the LORD had said, but you paid no attention. You rebelled against him, and in your pride you marched into the hill country.

A clever person sometimes chooses a strategy to take objection against God. The result may not be good.

Deuteronomy 5 The Ten Commandments

1 Moses called together all the people of Israel and said to them, “People of Israel, listen to all the laws that I am giving you today. Learn them and be sure that you obey them.

The similar teachings are given in Exodus.

Deuteronomy 6

5 Love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength.

This seems to be the greatest commandment.

Deuteronomy 8

17 So then, you must never think that you have made yourselves wealthy by your own power and strength.

18 Remember that it is the LORD your God who gives you the power to become rich. He does this because he is still faithful today to the covenant that he made with your ancestors.

We want to remember that our result of the present depends on the power of our ancestors and the LORD.

Deuteronomy 32

18 They forgot their God, their mighty saviour, the one who had given them life.

We must know that there is the power beyond us and thank it.

My Opinions about Miracles

The various miracles are told in the Bible. The strong surprise, delight, and very large utility may be expressed by the miracles.

There are the fictions in the modern times.

We expect that some events which break the rules of our understandings will happen. Then we are modest to God.

If we believe that miracles will happen and try, we may show immeasurable power.

About 1 Kings and 2 Kings

In 1 Kings and 2 Kings, the prosperity of King Solomon is described. And the division of the kingdom in the third generation and the collapse of the north Israel kingdom and so on are described. It is told that those are due to the idol worship.

Job 38

4 Were you there when I made the world?

If you know so much, tell me about it.

We cannot understand the time when the earth was made and cannot see the world posthumously.

Psalms 2

4 From his throne in heaven the Lord laughs and mocks their feeble plans.

We sometimes try to achieve a high aim. The person who achieved it may sometimes be proud of it. But in the place that was achieved a too high aim we may not feel our happiness. I wonder if it is important that even insufficiently we go ahead through the process before

reaching the top little by little.

Psalms 37

5 Give yourself to the LORD;
trust in him, and he will help you;

It is sometimes necessary for us to leave what we can't do to others.

Proverbs 9

10 To be wise you must first have reverence for the LORD. If you know the Holy One, you have understanding.

We must know that there is the power beyond us. It is necessary in all subjects.

Ecclesiastes 11

6 Do your planting in the morning and in the evening, too. You never know whether it will all grow well or whether one planting will do better than the other.

We cannot achieve great works soon. We sometimes feel that it is useless to continue to make efforts while not knowing a future. But we must continue to make efforts believing that we will be able to acquire good results in the future.

When our goods or services in our companies are sold well, it is not evil that we have the only business goal of maximizing our profits. But when in a serious stagnation employment situation is severe, it may be

a chance to check the qualities of our goods or services in our companies and we may want to keep to work. Employees and their families can become customers, and the attitude of enterprises itself may become a favorite advertising in such a situation and give a favorite effect. When we think about measures to stimulate the economy, it is important that we ask what we are really asking for.

In any school we educate persons. So the work or reputation by graduates is an important advertising.

Ecclesiastes 12

12 My child, there is something else to watch out for. There is no end to the writing of books, and too much study will wear you out.

13 After all this, there is only one thing to say: Have reverence for God, and obey his commands, because this is all that we were created for.

14 God is going to judge everything we do, whether good or bad, even things done in secret.

There are many books. We become wise when we read them. But also we must learn “Have reverence for God, and obey his commands.”

I think that this would be the education if we could not teach only one thing.

Isaiah 53

5 But because of our sins he was wounded,

beaten because of the evil we did.

We are healed by the punishment he suffered,

made whole by the blows he received.

We live at the sacrifice of other existences.

Ezekiel 18

3 “As surely as I am the living God,” says the Sovereign LORD,

As a whole, life and the other existence continue to be.

Jonah 2

1 From deep inside the fish Jonah prayed to the LORD his God:

The people of Nineveh obeyed the LORD and could escape from the evil by being careful of their luxury.

< References >

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I thank God for leading me to here.

I always pray God for peace in the earth.

