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郭跃进 编译

英语圣经故事导读

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前

《圣经》是人类文化活动的结晶,是世界文明的一个基本组成部分,充满宗教色彩的历史传说与神话能让读者从历史、政治、经济、文学的角度去研究人类文明的发展史,并从中感觉到浓厚的历史沉淀。

公元前三千年,来自亚洲的一个希伯来游牧部落,一路坎坷,来到地中海东岸的迦南(今巴勒斯坦)。其中,有位叫以色列的壮汉养育了十二个儿子,他们在这块土地上成家立业,繁衍生息,逐渐形成庞大的以色列家族,并一步一步走向强盛,十二兄弟后来按自己的名字组成宗族派系。

后来,以色列人为能过上更美好的生活,大多数人举家迁往埃及,可世事变迁,强大的以色列人逐渐沦落为埃及人的苦力。因不堪重负,他们集体逃离埃及,经西奈半岛返回家园。

此时的迦南已被非利士人(巴勒斯坦人)占据,因此,以色列人与非利士人之间的争斗不断,此后一直弥漫着战争的硝烟。最后以色列人获得了胜利,建立了以色列王国。

此后,以色列内部有两兄弟同室操戈,强大的以色列因此一分为二,北方称"以色列"国,南方称"犹太"国。"以色列"国后来被亚述王国所消灭,而"犹太"国也未逃脱被新巴比伦王国所扼杀的命运。新巴比伦王国最终被波斯王国所征服,仁慈的波斯国王让犹

2 前 言 英语圣经故事导读

太人返回故里,重建耶路撒冷及耶和华圣殿。但随着波斯王国的 灭亡,犹太人先后被马其顿、罗马等帝国所征服和占领。此后的两 千年,犹太人便没有了自己的祖国。

犹太人自古信奉"耶和华",并通过祭祀仪式和宗教规定的方式来体现自己对上帝的信仰和忠诚。后来犹太人的祭司和文人墨客将流传于犹太民间的史诗,传说以及先知们的告诫汇编成册,成为宗教"经书"(旧约)。内容涵盖宗教、政治、历史、文学。时间跨度上至"开天辟地",下至巴比伦王国的覆灭。

后来,一位生活在罗马时期的犹太人耶稣,在耶路撒冷及周边地区,宣扬上帝的仁爱,治病救人;同时对犹太教的教义提出异议,不主张"严守安息日"的戒律,而主张"安息日"照常工作,并以各种形式揭露部分教士的虚伪和腐化。因此,穷人尊他为"基督"(救世主),而犹太教祭司及宗教的卫道士们对他却怀恨在心。结果,耶稣因被自己的门徒出卖,被宗教统治者钉死在十字架上。

即便如此,统治者们也觉得基督所宣扬的"仁爱"观可用来软化压迫者的斗志,窒息被压迫者的灵魂中那不屈的呐喊,他们也纷纷信奉基督教。从此,耶稣出生的年月日用作纪元,基督教甚至成为残忍的罗马帝国的国教。公元前3世纪,有人将耶稣的事迹和门徒的传教经历编写成"新约",并与"旧约"一起被称为《圣经》。

《英语圣经故事导读》一书从不同版本的《圣经》中精选 50 篇,经过加工处理后编译成册,每篇按"故事欣赏"、"参考译文"、"词语注释"的体例编排。故事内容集历史性、知识性、通俗性、趣味性、连贯性于一体,具有道德教化的作用,通俗易懂,适合于高中、大学低年级学生阅读,能帮助读者在欣赏的过程中提高自己的英文阅读能力。因译者水平所限,如有疏漏,敬请原谅!

郭跃进 2000 年 10 月于湖北教育学院

目 录

1. The Creation of the World	1
创世之初	3
2. Disobey God in Eden	6
伊甸园犯禁	8
3. Cain Killed His Brother	11
该隐杀弟	12
4. Noah's Ark ···································	14
挪亚方舟	16
5. Abram and Pharaoh	18
亚伯兰与法老	19
6. The Twin Brothers	21
孪生兄弟	24
7. Jacob's Marriage and Family	28
雅各的婚姻与家庭	31
8. Revenge	34
复仇	36
9. Joseph Interpreted Dreams	39
	42
10. The Birth of Moses	45

2 英语圣经故事导读

摩西降生	46
11. Holy Mission	49
神圣的使命	52
12. God Saved the Israelites	55
上帝拯救以色列人	56
13. The Ten Commandments by God	59
神谕十大戒律	61
14. Unusually Strong Samson	65
力士参孙	68
15. Samson's Revenge	71
参孙复仇	73
16. God Made Saul King	77
上帝钦定扫罗为王	80
17. God's Punishment of Saul	83
上帝惩罚扫罗	85
18. Little David's Fighting the Enemy Back	88
小大卫挺身退敌	91
19. Saul's Desire to Kill David	95
扫罗欲除大卫	98
20. David's Marriage with Abigail	101
大卫娶亚比该	104
Z1. David Decame King in Hobien	107
	109
22. God's Punishment of David Because of His Stealing	, of
Other 3 Will	112
人足女女义的	115
	119
	121

24. Solomon Ridded Dissidents	124
所罗门消除异己	126
25. Solomon's Wise Judgement of Whose Baby	128
所罗门智断亲子案	130
26. The Birth of the Messiah	132
圣子基督降生	134
27. The Spiritual Strength	137
精神的力量	138
28. John the Baptist	140
圣徒约翰	141
29. Jesus' Mission	143
耶稣的使命	144
30. Jesus Turned Water Into Wine	146
耶稣变水为酒	147
31. Turn Little Into Much	148
变少为多	149
32. Obtaining of Eternal Life from Broad Love	150
因博爱而永生	151
33. Jesus Cured the Blind	153
光明使者	155
34. Mighty Strength from Holy Trust	159
信仰乃力量之源	161
35. Two Parables Explain the Reasons	164
借寓释理	165
36. Saving the Lost Sheep	168
拯救迷途羔羊	170
37. Suffering in Hell	172
地狱受难	173

38. The Secrets of the Kingdom of Heaven	1/5
天意解读	178
39. Lazarus Rose Again from the Grave	182
重生的拉撒路	185
40. The Last Supper	188
最后的晚餐	191
41. The Death of Jesus	194
耶稣之死	198
42. Revival of God's Son Jesus	202
圣子耶稣复活	205
43. Repent and Baptized	208
悔过受洗	210
44. Selfish Is the Devil	213
自私是魔鬼	214
45. Turn Enemy Into Friend	216
化敌为友	218
46. God doesn't Love One More than Another	221
上帝不会偏爱	223
47. A Crippled Man Who Had the Faith to Be Cured	226
心诚可治疾	227
48. The Death of Herod	229
希律王之死	231
49. More Happiness in Giving than in Receiving	233
施舍比享用更幸福	235
50. Paul's Happiness After Suffering	237
保罗遇难呈祥	239

故事欣赏

1. The Creation of the World

When God made heaven and earth, the earth was a mass of whirling clouds and vapour without form and it was dark all over. God said, "Let there be light, let there be light." And there was light. God saw that the light was good, and he separated light from darkness. He called the light day, and the darkness night. So evening came, and morning came. It was the first day.

God said, "Let there be a vault between the waters, to separate water from water." So God made the vault, and separated the water under the vault from the water above it; and God called the vault the heavens. Evening came, and morning came, a second day.

God said, "Let the waters under heaven be gathered into one place, so that dry land may appear." And so it was. God called the dry land earth, and the gathering of the waters he called seas; and God saw that it was quite good. Then God said, "Let the earth produce fresh growth, let there be on the earth plants bearing seed." So it was. Plants bearing seed grew on the earth, and God saw that it was good. Evening came, and morning came, a third day.

God said, "Let there be lights in the vault of heaven to sepa-

rate day from night, and let them serve as signs both for festivals and for seasons and years. Let them also shine in the vault of heaven to give light on the earth. "So it was. God made the two great lights, the bigger is called the Sun to govern the day and the smaller is called the Moon to govern the night; and with them he made the stars. God put these lights in the vault of heaven to give light on the earth, to separate light from darkness; and God saw that it was good. Evening came, and morning came, a fourth day.

God said, "Let the waters filled with countless living creatures, and let birds fly in the heavens." God then created all living creatures that move and live in the waters, and every kind of bird; and God saw that it was good. So he blessed them and said, "Be fruitful and become more and more, fill the waters of the seas; and let more and more birds on the land." Evening came, and morning came, a fifth day.

God said, "Let the earth filled with such living creatures, as cattle, sheep and wild animals..." So it was. God made wild animals, cattle, sheep and all reptiles. And he saw that it was good. Then God said, "Let us make man in our image and likeness to rule the fish in the sea, the birds of heaven, the cattle, all wild animals on the earth, that crawl upon the earth. "So God created man in his own image: male and female. God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase, fill the earth, rule over the fish in the sea, the birds of heaven, and every living thing that moves upon the earth. "God also said, "I give you all plants that bear seed everywhere on the earth, and every tree bearing fruit; they shall be yours for food. All green plants I give for food to the wild animals on the earth, to all the birds of heaven, every living crea-

ture. "So it was. God saw all that he had made, and it was very good. Evening came, and morning came, a sixth day.

Thus heaven and earth were completed. On the sixth day God completed all the work he had been doing, and on the seventh day he stopped his work. God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on that day he did not need to do any work.

This is the story of the making of heaven and earth when they were created.

多 考 译 文

创世之初

上帝创造天地时,地球还是一团尚未成形的旋转云块和雾,到 处一片黑暗。上帝说:"光明到!光明到!"天地间随即就有了光 明。上帝视"光"为祥物,于是他就把光明与黑暗分开,光明之时为 白天,黑暗之时为夜晚。晨曦送走长夜,这就是第一天。

上帝说:"要有苍穹将茫茫之水上下分隔!"说罢.他就动手造 就茶穹,苍穹之上有水,苍穹之下有水,上帝称分隔的穹顶为天空。 晨曦送走长夜,这就是第二天。

上帝说:"将普天之水汇集成域,显露出干涸的土地!"土地马 上就露出水面之上。上帝称大块干涸之地为陆,称聚集的水域为 海。上帝见水陆之分甚好,接着说:"让大地繁衍生机,树木结籽, 万物生长。"于是,大地上各种瓜果树木,参差生长,带籽丛生。上 帝觉得这是件好事。晨曦送走长夜,这就是第三天。

上帝说:"让苍穹中有光来区分昼与夜,让光来作为标志,表示 节日、年月、季节的更替,让它们在苍穹之中发光,照亮大地。"说

4 创世之初 英语圣经故事导读

罢,上帝就创造了两个大型发光体,较大的天体称日,主宰白昼;较小的天体称月,主宰黑夜。在日月之间,上帝又创造了满天繁星。上帝在苍穹里撒下光明,照亮海洋陆地,划分光明与黑暗。上帝觉得这样不错,晨曦送走长夜,这就是第四天。

上帝说:"让水中生长无数鱼类,让鸟儿在天上飞翔。"上帝当即就创造了游弋的鱼类,栖息于水中,并创造了万千飞鸟。上帝感到这是件好事,就赐福予它们,祝愿说:"愿海中鱼儿繁衍,愿天上众多鸟儿飞。"晨曦送走长夜,这就是第五天。

上帝说:"地球上应有千虫百兽,诸如牛羊,野兽……"上帝就随心所愿创造了走兽,牛羊和爬行动物。上帝觉得这是件好事。他说:"要按我们自己的形象和喜好来塑造人类,来监管约束海洋之中的繁多鱼类,空中飞鸟,牛以及地上爬行的牲畜野兽。"因此,上帝就按照他的形象创造了人类,有男与女。上帝为他们祝福:"多多繁衍子孙后代,让人类遍布地球的每一个角落,成为海洋,空中,陆地的主宰,驾驭鱼类,鸟类,爬虫走兽。"上帝还说:"我要赐予你们结籽类植物,播种根植于整个地球,让每棵树都挂满沉甸甸的果子,赐予你们为食——野兽,飞鸟,以及一切生物。"上帝就这样行随所愿,创造了一切,并感到一切非常美好。夜晚来临,很快晨曦初露,这就是第六天。

天地万物皆已成形,在第六天,上帝完成了全部工作,第七天 他停止工作,就赐福予第七天,并称之为万圣日,因为这一天他无 需工作。

这就是上帝创世的故事。

词语注释

- 1. mass n. 团,块状物
- 2. whirl v. 旋转

英语圣经故事导读

- 3. vapour n. 汽,雾
- 4. vault n. 穹窿
- 5. sign n. 标记
- 6. govern v. 统治,管理
- 7. creature n. 动物
- 8. create v. 创造
- 9. bless υ. 赐福
- 10. cattle n. 牛
- 11. reptile n. 爬行动物
- 12. image n. 形象
- 13. likeness n. 相貌
- 14. crawl v. 爬行
- 15. male adj. 男性的
- 16. female adj. 女性的
- 17. separate...from 将……分开
- 18. gather...into 聚集成……
- 19. bear seed 结籽
- 20. serve as 用作
- 21. the vault of heaven 苍穹
- 22. give light on 给……以光明
- 23. crawl upon 爬行

故事欣赏

2. Disobey God in Eden

God formed a man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life. Thus the man became a living creature. Then God planted a garden in Eden away to the east, and there he put the man whom he had formed. God made trees spring from the ground, all trees pleasant to look at and good for food; and in the middle of the garden he set the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

There was a river flowing from Eden to water the garden, and when it left the garden it branched into four streams. The name of the first is Pishon, which runs around all the land of Havilah, where the gold is. The gold of that land is good, a lot of ambers and cornelians are also found there. The name of the second river is Gihon, this is the one which encircles all the land of Cush. The name of the third is Tigris, this is the river which runs east of Asshur. The fourth river is the Euphrates.

God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and care for it. He told the man, "You may eat from every tree in the garden, but not from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil; on the day that you eat from it, you will certainly die. "Then God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will provide a

partner for you." So God put the man into a sleeplike condition of the mind, and while he slept, he took one of his ribs and closed the flesh over the place. God then built up the rib into a woman called Eve. He brought her to the man.

Adam and Eve lived happily in the garden. But there was one creature in the garden who wished to make trouble between God and man. This was the serpent, who was the most cunning of all the creatures.

One day, the serpent found Eve alone in the garden, and he whispered in her ear, "You will not die if you eat the fruit of the tree of knowledge of good and evil. You will understand everything, and you will both be like God."

Eve believed the serpent, and wanted to be a god. She took the fruit and ate it, and gave it to Adam, and he ate it too. At once everything changed. They felt guilty and unhappy for the first time. Also, they were ashamed of their nakedness, so they sewed leaves together to cover themselves up.

That evening, Adam and Eve heard God walking in the garden, and they hid themselves among the trees. "Where are you?" God called out to Adam. Adam had to come out of hiding place. "I heard your voice," he said to God, "and I was afraid because I was naked, so I hid myself."

"Who told you that you were naked?" God asked him. "Have you eaten the fruit of the forbidden tree?"

"The woman made me do it," Adam said.

"Why did you do it?" God asked Eve.

"The serpent made me do it," she replied.

God became very angry and put a curse on the serpent. Then

8 伊甸园犯禁 英语圣经故事导读

he turned to Adam and Eve. "Because you have disobeyed me," he said, "I will send you out of the Garden of Eden into the wilderness, where life will be hard for you. Woman will give birth in pain, and man will have to work hard to raise crops, until he dies. I made you out of dust, and you will return to dust."

参考译文

伊甸园犯禁

上帝用泥土塑造了一个男人,又对着泥人的鼻孔吹了一口灵气,泥人就有了生命。接着他又在东边的伊甸园建起了一座花园,并把自己塑造的人安置在花园中。上帝又让地上骤生千树万树,青绿悦目,果实可餐。在花园的中央,上帝种下生命之树,还有一棵能分辨善恶的智慧之树。

一条小河蜿蜒流过伊甸园,能浇灌园中林木花草。当流过花园时,小河分成了四条小溪,其中一条小溪名叫比逊河,它流过黄金宝地哈月非拉全境,此处的黄金成色好,还盛产琥珀和红宝石。第二条小溪是基训河,它蜿蜒流过古实全境。第三条小溪是希底结河,从亚述东边流过。第四条小溪就是伯拉河。

上帝把自己塑造的男人带到伊甸园,让他看管园林,生息劳作。他告诫这个男人,"你可以随意吃园中树上的果子,但切记不可以摘食那裸能分辨善恶的智慧树上的果子。否则,你就会送命。"上帝又接着对这个男人说:"一个人独居不是件好事,我要为你找个伴侣。"于是上帝让他处于昏迷状态,就在这时,上帝从他的身上取下一根肋骨,并使伤口立即愈合。上帝就用这根肋骨造出了一个女人夏娃,并将这个女人带到男人的身旁。