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圣经的故事

The Story of the Bible

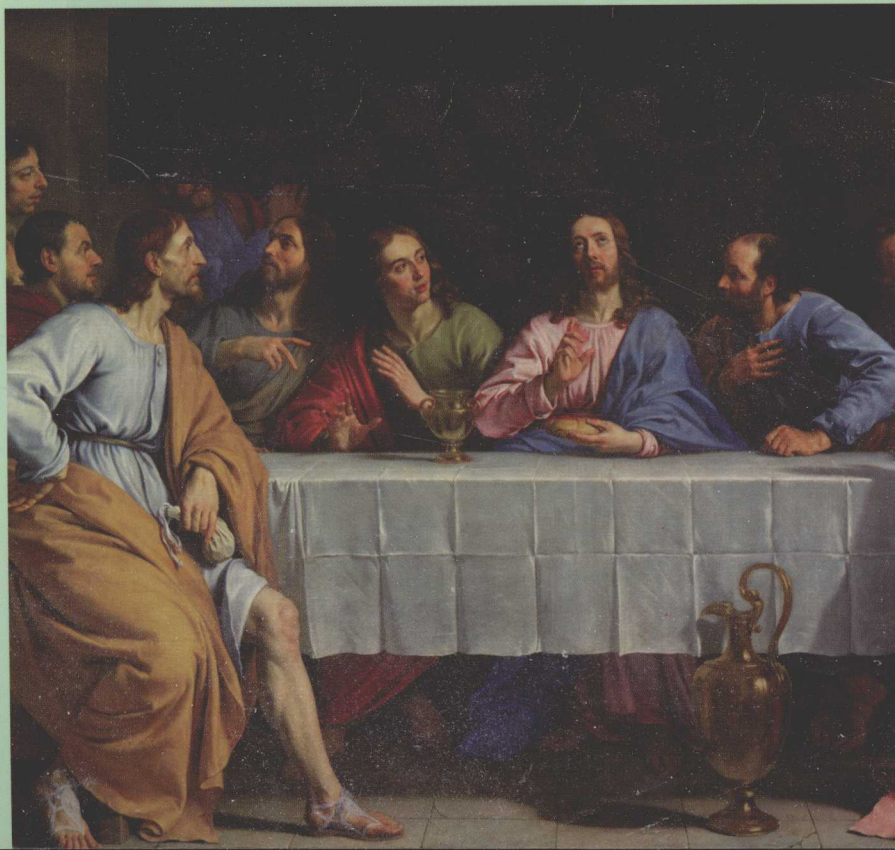
【英汉双语】

执云 主编

(美)亨德里克·威廉·房龙 著

高芬 译

以理解一切事物的完美之爱来疗救这个世界。





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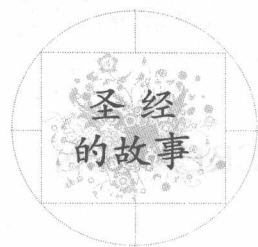
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目 录

CREATION.....	2
创世	
THE PIONEERS.....	16
先驱者们	
CHAPTER FURTHER WESTWARD	30
再向西行	
THE ESCAPE FROM SLAVERY	40
逃脱奴役	
FINDING NEW PASTURES	54
觅新牧场	
THE STORY OF RUTH	58
路得的故事	
A JEWISH KINGDOM	64
犹太王国	
THE BIRTH OF JESUS	86
耶稣之诞生	
JOHN THE BAPTIST	112
施洗者约翰	

THE CHILDHOOD OF JESUS	126
耶稣的童年	
THE DISCIPLES	134
门徒们	
THE NEW TEACHER	144
新导师	
THE OLD ENEMIES	156
老敌手们	
THE DEATH OF JESUS	168
耶稣之死	



圣经的故事

The Story of the Bible

【美】房龙著 高芬译





CREATION

HOW THE JEWS BELIEVED THAT THE WORLD HAD BEEN CREATED

The oldest of all questions is this: "Where do we come from?"

Some people ask it until the very day of their death. They do not really expect to get an answer, but they are happy in the courage that makes them face the realities of life, and like brave soldiers, facing a hopeless task, they refuse to surrender and they pass into eternity with the proud word "why" upon their lips.

This world, however, is full of all sorts of men and women. Most of them insist upon a plausible explanation of the things which they do not understand. When no explanation is forth-coming, they invent one of their own.

Five thousand years ago a story which told of the creation of this world in seven days was common among all the people of western Asia. And this was the Jewish version of it.

They vaguely attributed the making of the land and of the sea and of the trees and the flowers and the birds and of man and woman to their different gods. But it happened that the Jews were the first among all people to recognise the existence of One Single God. Afterwards when we come to talk of the days of Moses, we shall tell you how this came about.

In the beginning, however, the particular Semitic tribe which later was to develop into the Jewish nation, worshipped several divinities, just as all their neighbours had done before them for countless ages. The stories of the creation, however, which we find in the Old Testament, were written more



创世

犹太人深信这个世界是被创造出来的

千百年来，最古老的一个问题就是：“我们从哪里来？”

直到死亡到来，人们依然对这个问题迷惑不解。人们并不是真的期许获得答案，但是他们为拥有面对现实人生的勇气而高兴，就像英勇的战士敢于直视艰难的任务，他们拒绝屈服，伴随着“为什么”——这个自豪的词语，他们融入不朽。

然而，这个世界具有形形色色的男人和女人。对不明白的事情，大多数人坚持一种看似合理的解释，当没有合适的解释时，他们便自己创造。

五千多年前，一个七日创世的故事在西亚的百姓中广为流传。而这个故事就是它的犹太版。

他们笼统地认为陆地、海洋、森林、花朵、鸟禽、人类分别源自于不同上帝的创造。但是所有人当中，犹太人第一个坚持上帝是唯一存在的。到后面谈到摩西时代，我们再解释其中的缘由。

然而一开始，一支特殊的闪米特部落（后发展为犹太民族）就像他们之前无数岁月中他们的邻居那样，崇拜多个神明。而《旧约》里



than a thousand years after the death of Moses, when the idea of One God had been accepted by the Jews as an absolutely established fact, and when doubt of His Existence meant exile or death.

You will now understand how the poet who gave unto the Hebrew people their final version of the beginning of all things, came to describe the gigantic labour of creation as the sudden expression of one single and all-mighty will, and as the work of their own tribal God, whom they called Jehovah, the Ruler of the High Heavens.

And this is how the story was told to the worshippers in the temple.

In the beginning, this earth floated through space in somber silence and darkness. There was no land, but the endless waters of the deep ocean covered our vast empires. Then the Spirit of Jehovah came brooding over the sea, contemplating mighty things. And Jehovah said, "Let there be light," and the first rays of dawn appeared amidst the darkness. "This," Jehovah said, "I shall call the Day."

But soon the flickering light came to an end and all was as it had been before. "And this," Jehovah said, "shall be called the Night." Then he rested from his labours, and so ended the first of all days.

Then Jehovah said: "Let there be a Heaven, which shall spread its vast dome across the waters below, that there may be a place for the clouds and for the winds which blow across the sea." This was done. Once more there was an evening and a morning, and there was an end to the second day.

Then Jehovah said: "Let there be land amidst the water." At once the rugged mountains showed their dripping heads above the surface of the ocean, and soon they arose mightily towards the high Heavens and at their feet the plains and the valleys spread far and wide. Then Jehovah said, "Let the land be fertile with plants which bear seed, and with trees that bear flowers and fruit." And the earth was green with a soft carpet of grass and the trees and the shrubs enjoyed the soft caress of the early dawn. And once more the morning was followed by eventide, and so the labour of the third day came to an end.

Then Jehovah said: "Let the Heavens be filled with stars that the seasons and the days and the years may be marked. And let the day be ruled by the sun, but the night shall be a time of rest, when only the silent



的关于创世的故事，则是在摩西死后的一千多年后写的。那时，上帝唯一论的观念已经被犹太人所接受，对这一理论的怀疑意味着流放和灭亡。

现在你们应该明白，为希伯来人书写了万物起源最后一个版本的那位诗人，为什么会倾力将劳动创世描写为一个全能神明的一次心血来潮了。这位神明，正是他们部落所信奉的上帝——耶和华，天堂最高的统治者。

神殿里讲给信徒的故事是这样的：

一开始，地球在阴郁、黑暗的宇宙中漂浮。那里没有陆地，巨大的王国被无尽的海洋所覆盖。耶和华凝视着广阔的海洋，陷入沉思。随后，耶和华说：“要有光。”于是在黑暗中出现了黎明的第一道光线，他说，“这，我将称它为白昼。”

但是很快，闪烁的光开始变得模糊，一如以前的黑暗。耶和华说：“这，我称它为黑夜。”随后，他停止了他的劳动，于是，所有日子的第一天结束了。

随后，耶和华说：“要有天，一个可以横跨海水的巨大穹顶。让拂过海水的云朵和风有所可居。”于是就有了天。然后，又过了一个黑夜和早晨，第二天就结束了。

接着，耶和华说：“水中要有陆地。”立刻，在海洋的表面，崎岖的大山抬起了他们湿淋淋的头颅，并很快向天堂延伸，脚下的平原、山谷，也愈变愈宽广。然后耶和华说：“陆地要长满孕育种子的植物和开花结果的树木。”于是，土地变绿了，铺上了一层柔软的草毯，还有树和灌木，温柔的黎明抚摸着它们。随后，昼夜交替，于是第三天也结束了。

之后，耶和华说：“天空要群星密布，来标示季节、昼夜和年



moon shall show the belated wanderer across the desert the true road to shelter.” This too was done, and so ended the fourth day.

Then Jehovah said: “Let the waters be full of fishes and the sky be full of birds.” And he made the mighty whale and the tiny minnows and the ostrich and the sparrow, and he gave them the earth and the ocean as their dwelling place and told them to increase, that they and little minnows and little whales and ostriches and sparrows might enjoy the blessings of life. And that night, when the birds tucked their tired heads underneath their wings and when the fishes steered into the darkness of the deep, there was an end to the fifth day.

Then Jehovah said: “It is not enough. Let the world also be full of creatures that creep and such as walk on legs.” And he made the cows and the tigers and all the beasts we know unto this very day and many others that since have disappeared from this earth. And when this was done, Jehovah took some of the dust of the soil, and he moulded it into an image, resembling Himself, and he gave it life, and he called it man, and he placed it at the head of all creation. So ended the labour of the sixth day, and Jehovah was contented with what he had wrought and on the seventh day he rested from his work.

Then came the eighth day, and Man found himself amidst his new kingdom. His name was Adam, and he lived in a garden filled with lovely flowers, and with peaceful animals who came and brought their kittens and their puppies, that he might play with them and forget his loneliness. But even so, Man was not happy. For all other creatures had been given the companionship of their own kind, but Man was alone.

Therefore, Jehovah took a rib from Adam’s body and out of it created Eve. Then Adam and Eve wandered forth to explore their home, which was called Paradise.

At last they came to a mighty tree and there Jehovah spoke to them and said: “Listen, for this is very important. Of the fruit of all the trees in this garden you may eat to your hearts’ content. But this is the tree that gives forth the knowledge of Good and Evil. When Man eats from the fruit of this tree, he begins to understand the righteousness or the wickedness of his own acts. That means an end to all peace of his soul. Therefore, you must



月。让白天太阳高照，而夜晚为休息时间，让沉寂的月光为迟归的漂泊者穿越沙漠时指引回家的路。”这也完成了，第四天就结束了。

然后，耶和华说：“水中要有鱼儿游动，空中要有鸟儿飞翔。”于是他造出了巨鲸和小鱼，鸵鸟和麻雀，并将陆地和海洋作为它们的居所，让他们繁衍生息。让幼小的鱼、鲸、鸵鸟、麻雀在祝福中成长。晚上，当鸟儿低头在翅膀下栖息，鱼儿游至海水深处时，第五天也进入尾声。

然后，耶和华说：“这还不够，让世界充满爬行的和步行的生物。于是他造了牛、造了虎，造出了我们知道的、不知道的、存在的和已经消失了的物种。当这一切完成之后，耶和华用泥土按照自己的样子做成了一个塑像，并赋予它生命，他将它称为人，并将它置于所有造物之首。于是第六天结束了，耶和华非常满意他所创造的一切。第七天，他停止了工作。

到了第八天，在新的世界里，“人”发现他置身其中，他就叫做亚当。花园里，有美丽的花朵、温顺的动物，他与它们玩耍，试图忘记他的孤独，但是他依然不开心。因为所有的生物都陪伴着他们各自的群体，但“人”却只有他一个。

于是，耶和华从亚当的体内取出了一根肋骨，创造了夏娃，随后，亚当和夏娃一起在他们的称为伊甸园的新家中闲游。

最后，他们走到了一棵大树旁，耶和华对他们说：“听着，这句话很重要。这个花园里，所有树上的果子，你们都可以品尝，除了这棵能让人懂得何为善恶的树。如果人吃了这棵树的果子，他就能分辨行为的善良和邪恶。这就意味着他的灵魂将不再宁静。因此，你们必须远离这棵果树，否则，你们将承受严重的后果。”



leave the fruit of this tree alone, or accept the consequences, which are very terrible. ”

Adam and Eve listened and promised that they would obey. Soon afterwards, Adam fell asleep, but Eve remained awake and began to wander. Suddenly there was a rustling in the grass, and behold! there was a crafty old serpent.

In those days the animals spoke a language which could be understood by man, and so the serpent had no difficulty in telling Eve how he had overheard the words of Jehovah, and how foolish she would be if she were to take them seriously. Eve thought so too. When the serpent handed her the fruit of the tree, she ate some, and when Adam woke up, she gave him what was left.

Then Jehovah was very angry. At once he drove both Adam and Eve from Paradise, and they went forth into the world to make a living as best they could.

In due course of time they had two children. They were both boys. The name of the elder was Cain, but the younger was called Abel. They made themselves useful around the house. Cain worked in the fields and Abel tended his father’ s sheep. Of course they quarreled as brothers are apt to quarrel. One day, they both brought offerings to Jehovah. Abel had killed a lamb, and Cain had placed some grain upon the rude stone altar which they had built as a place for worship.

Children are apt to be jealous of each other, and they like to brag about their own virtues. The wood on Abel’ s altar was burning merrily, but Cain had trouble with his flint. Cain thought that Abel was laughing at him. Abel said no, he was just standing by and looking on. Cain asked him to go away. Abel said no, why should he? Then Cain hit Abel.

But he hit him much too hard, and Abel fell down dead. Cain was terribly frightened and ran away.

But Jehovah, who knew what had happened, found him hiding in some bushes. He asked him where his brother was. Cain, in a surly mood, would not answer. How should he know? He was not a nurse-maid, supposed to be looking after his little brother, was he? But of course, this lie did not do him any good. Just as Jehovah had driven Adam and Eve from Paradise because



亚当和夏娃听了，表示遵命。过了一会儿，亚当睡着了，而夏娃却清醒着，并对这一切感到好奇。突然，草丛中传来窸窣的声音，一条狡诈的老蛇出现在夏娃眼前。

那个时候，动物都说着人可以理解的语言，所以蛇很容易的与夏娃交谈并告诉夏娃，他听到了耶和华的话，他觉得如果她把这话当真，那可就太傻了。夏娃也是这么想的。当老蛇递给她那棵树上的果子时，她吃了一些，等亚当醒后，夏娃又把剩下的果子给了他。

随后，耶和华大发雷霆，他把亚当和夏娃赶出了伊甸园。于是，他们不得不自食其力地在这个世界中谋生。

随着岁月的流逝，他们有了两个男孩。大的叫该隐，小的叫亚伯。他们在家过得充实。该隐在田里辛苦耕作，亚伯则悉心照料父亲的羊群。当然，他们也会像其他家庭的孩子一样容易发生争执。一天，他们在敬拜者的圣坛上向耶和华献祭。亚伯杀了一只羔羊，该隐在圣坛前撒了一些谷物。

孩子们都有嫉妒的天性，也喜欢吹嘘自己的德行。木柴在亚伯的圣坛中肆无忌惮地燃烧，然而该隐的燧石却出了问题。该隐猜测亚伯在嘲笑他，亚伯则说他没有，他只是站在那里看看而已。该隐让他走开，亚伯说不，他为什么要走开呢？于是该隐打了亚伯。

但是他出手太重了，亚伯倒地而死。该隐极度害怕，逃走了。

但是耶和华什么都知道。他在树丛中找到该隐，问他的弟弟在哪里。该隐没有回答，而且态度粗暴：我怎么知道呢？我又不是专门照看他的保姆！当然，这个谎话对他并没有任何好处。正如亚当和夏娃由于违背耶和华的意愿而被赶出伊甸园一样，该隐也被赶出了家。从这以后，他的父母再也没有见过他。



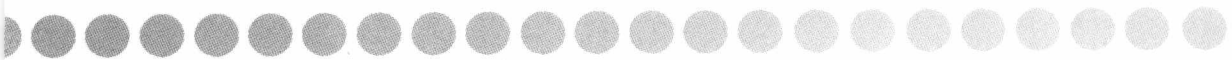
they had disobeyed his will, so he now forced Cain to run away from home, and although he lived for many years, his father and mother never saw him again.

As for Adam and Eve, their lives were very unhappy. Their younger son was dead and their older boy had run away. They had many more children and they died when they were very old and bent down with endless years of toil and misfortune. Gradually the children and the grandchildren of Adam and Eve began to populate the earth. They went east and they went west and they went northwards into the mountains and they lost themselves amidst the sandy wastes of the southern desert. But the crime of Cain had set its mark upon the early race. Forever the hand of man was lifted against his neighbour. People murdered each other and they stole each other's sheep. It was not safe for a girl to leave her home, lest she be kidnapped by the boys of the neighbouring villages. The world was in a sad state. A false start had been made. It was necessary to begin all over again. Perhaps a new generation would prove to be more obedient to the will of Jehovah.

In those days there lived a man called Noah. He was the grandson of Methuselah (who lived nine hundred and sixty-nine years) and he was a descendant of Seth, a younger brother of Cain and Abel, who was born after the family tragedy had taken place. Noah was a good man who tried to be at peace with his conscience and with his fellow men. If the human race had to begin once more, Noah would make a very good ancestor.

Jehovah therefore decided to kill all other people, but to spare Noah. He came to Noah and told him to build a ship. The vessel was to be four hundred and fifty feet long and seventy-five feet wide and it was to have a depth of forty-three feet. This made it almost as large as a modern ocean liner and it is difficult to see how Noah constructed such an enormous craft entirely out of wood.

But Noah and his faithful workmen stuck to their job. They cut down the mighty cypress trees and laid the keel and built the sides and covered them with pitch, that the hold might be dry. When the third deck had been finished, a roof was built. It was made of heavy timber, to withstand the violence of the rain that was to pour down upon this wicked earth.



至于亚当和夏娃，他们生活得并不幸福。小儿子死了、大儿子离家了。他们又有了许多孩子，到他们死的时候不仅老态龙钟，连他们的腰也被永无止境的苦难和厄运压弯了。渐渐的，亚当和夏娃的子孙们使得陆地上的人口增多起来。他们西行东进、走南闯北，消失在南部沙漠和北方山区之间。但是，该隐的罪行在早期的种族身上打下了深深的烙印。邻里之间，人们互相残杀，偷盗别人的羊。而对于女孩子来说，一切又是那么危险，唯恐被邻村的男孩绑架。世界一片混乱，一切都是一个错误的开始。这一切有必要重新来过。或许该创造一个新的顺从的种族。

那时候，有一个叫诺亚的人，他是活了九百六十九年的马图萨拉的子孙，是该隐和亚伯的弟弟赛斯的后裔。他出生于家族悲剧发生之后。

诺亚是一个好人，从不愧对自己的良心，与同族人和平共处。如果说人类要重新开始的话，诺亚当之无愧地成为人类的祖先。因此，耶和华决定杀了所有的人，只留下诺亚。他对诺亚说：造一只船吧！这艘船长达四百五十英尺，宽达七十五英尺，高达四十三英尺。造出来的船酷似现代邮轮，我们很诧异诺亚是怎样完全使用木材造出这艘船的。

但是，诺亚和他的儿子们意志坚定地开始工作。邻居们站在一旁边看边嘲笑他们。周围千里以内既没河也没海，他们竟然要造船，这是多么可笑啊。诺亚和忠实的工人们努力地工作着。他们砍掉柏树造出船的龙骨和船帮，用沥青涂盖，以使船身干燥。当第三块甲板完成，他们又用厚重的木料做成顶，用来承受暴雨以及礁石的强烈撞击。

随后，诺亚与他的妻子、三个儿子及儿媳们，为远航做着准备。



Then Noah and his household, his three sons and their wives, made ready for the voyage. They went into the fields and into the mountains and gathered all the animals they could find that they might have beasts for food and for sacrifices when they should return to dry land.

A whole week they hunted, And then the Ark (for so the ship was called) was full of the noise of strange creatures who did not like their cramped quarters and who bit at the bars of their cages. The fish, of course, were not taken. They could look after themselves.

On the evening of the seventh day, Noah and his family went on board. They pulled in the gang plank and closed the door. Late that night, it began to rain. It rained for forty nights and for forty days. At the end of this time, the whole earth was covered with water, and Noah and his fellow travellers in the Ark were the only living ones to survive this terrible deluge. Then, however, Jehovah had mercy. A violent wind swept the clouds away. Once more the rays of the sun rested upon the turbulent waves as they had done when the world was first created.

Carefully Noah opened a window and peered out. But his ship floated peacefully in the midst of an endless ocean and no land was in sight.

Noah sent out a raven, but the bird came back. Next he sent out a pigeon. Pigeons can fly longer than almost any other bird, but the poor thing could not find a single branch upon which to rest its feet, and it came back to the Ark and Noah took it and put it back into its cage. He waited a week, and once more he set the pigeon free. It was gone all day, but in the evening, it returned with a freshly plucked olive leaf in its beak. Apparently, the waters were receding.

Another week went by before Noah released the pigeon for the third time. It did not return, and this was a good sign. Soon afterwards, a sudden bump told Noah that his vessel had struck ground. The Ark had landed on top of Mount Ararat, in the country which is now called Armenia.

The next day Noah went ashore. At once he took some stones and built an altar and killed a number of beasts and birds and made a sacrifice. And behold, the sky was bright with the colours of a mighty rainbow. It was a sign of Jehovah to his faithful servant. It was a promise of future happiness. Then Noah and his sons, Shem, Ham and Japheth, and their wives, went

