



Trinity Saint David

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AI Acknowledgement

☒ I have not used AI in my assignment

I confirm that I have not used any AI tools in the research and creation of this assignment. I confirm that I have not presented any AI generated materials as my own work. I confirm I have copies of my drafts, notes, and other resources I used, which I may be asked to provide in evidence.

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Caring Mother in the Garden

In the Ming Dynasty, Yang Wei was Tai zai (an official)¹. After finishing the court meeting every day, he will devote to serve his mother, and refuse to meet other visitors. Yang took care of his mother's washing, pooping, massaging and so on. He did any small thing to his mother ^{in person}. In spring, Yang carried his mother on his back. They wandered among flowers and grass. By enjoy the scene and hearing, they can stay at a whole day. When his mother asked for coming back home, Yang took her back. In the end, his mother's lifespan was 104 years.

1. Tai zai = an official, managing the imperial affairs. One of the Six Boards.

Serving Parents and Sleeping Outside

In the Han Dynasty, Xue Bao was fond to learning and practised his virtue in diligence. His father married a woman as Bao's stepmother.

However, the stepmother dislike Bao and drove him out of home.

Bao had to live in outside. At Sunrise, he entered his parents' house

to clean and serve them. At night, he rested in inside door. He

consisted to greet his parents every day and night. After many years,

his parents moved by his sincerity. When his parents passed away, he

felt sorrow expensively. His younger brothers wanted to divide the

property. Bao did not refuse and agreed with his brothers' idea.

Bao took the old and weak servant, saying, 'We work together for

a long time, and know each other well.' Bao took the old and broken

vessels and stuff, saying, 'I am used to using this that made me

comfortable.' Bao took the poor field, saying, 'When I was young,

I farmed here, so I cannot leave them.' Later, his younger brothers

can not independent by themselves. Bao gave them a lot of recourse.

Emperor An of the Han Dynasty heard about Bao's event, so he

appointed Bao as Shi Zhong (an official)', but Bao refused.

Then, the Emperor rewarded him a thousand dan' rise.

1. dan : a weight system, 1 dan equals 50 kg.

1. Shi Zhong = 'confidential attendant', adviser to the Emperor.

Never Accepting Bribes

Wang Buting was Tai Shi (an official). When he was a student, he travelled to learn. Before he read articles, he would vow, 'If I evaluate these articles with accepting bribes, my sons and grandsons will never pass the imperial examination.' The people of Ease accepted the bribes, Wang extorted them secretly. [The former sages said, 'Most people think that accepting bribes to help crimes release, which could not have a negative affect on their future, so they benefit from this. But, both reward and punish are the big rule of a country. ^{now} I use some words to explain. When you exchange right to wrong, and release crimes, punish innocent people, choose the students that are lazy, but drive the diligent student out of the official system, Although you look like a person, your nature is a truly robber. You would be regarded as a crime. Those property could give their children and grand children, but could last for a long time.']

I never believe that these property
However, they did not accept the extortion, so Wang quit. Later, he attended a meeting, and he thought the price of rice was expensive,

So he asked for reducing the price. [Because the people's life means a lot, he helped countless people and gain endless fortune.] The official moved by Wang's words, and reduce the price of every dan rice. At that time, Wang did not have a child. One night, he dreamed a divine wearing a red cloth. The divine said to him, 'You conducted numerous secret good deeds. The heavenly emperor heard about you and reward you a son, who was Wang Xingong of Song Dynasty'. Soon after, Wang had a son, and give him ^{a polite} name 'A xin', fore name 'Jing Ming'.
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Later, his son passed the imperial exam and reached Zhuang Yuan (Number One Scholar).

Refusing Gold instead Accepting 2

In the Song Dynasty, Lu took 100 gold and sent to Wang Dan, asking for a delivery official of Jianghuai (this place has harvest resources).

Wang refused him and said, 'I thought your ability could not carry the official position. Will you use bribes to abandon the right way?'

Lu left with regret. Lu cursed Wang every day and hoped him die soon. One night, he dreamed a divine, who scolded him,

'Wang Dan devoted himself to contribute the country, but you hoped him to die. You would be punished soon by the heavenly emperor.'

Lu woke up with cold sweat. After a few days, Lu died.

Envy Good and Enjoy Bad

Xue Gong, who was a Chancellor (a high official), but he envied others' gain and glad to see others' difficulties. In his life, he never praised any good deeds or recommended a capable person to the Emperor. When he was old, one of his son died in prison and other eight sons were all unable people. They were deaf, blind, dumb, humpback and fool. Gong Ming Zi Gao known and felt sympathetic, insane and said to Xue, 'You did a lot of evil deeds, I am afraid your family would be confronted with the complete annihilation.' Xue felt fear and seek for help. Zi Gao taught him Sutra of Chi Songzi's instruction. Xue conducted this instruction in diligence, refraining from the evil deeds and practising good deeds. Next time, Zi Gao found Xue's children's diseases gradually recovered, and asked Xue, 'Did they have a good doctor to treat?' Xue replied, 'No, they did not. I ^{only} practised the instruction that you sent and this book guided my behaviours.' Zi Gao said, 'The Heaven rewarded you so fast. If you practise it all your life, you will gain countless fortune.'

Mother is a lively Buddha

Yang Bi was from Sichuan. Yang kowtowed and asked Zen master Wu Ji for Buddha. Zen master said, 'Why do not you see a lively Buddha?' Yang said, 'Where the Buddha is?' Zen master answered, 'If you see a person who wearing a cloak and shoes that turning around, the person is the Buddha.' At night, Yang returned and yelling his mother open the door. His mother heard the sound and having no time to wear well, felt happy, rushing to open the door. Yang found his mother's wearing was same with Zen master's describes, then he recognised respecting parents equals supporting a Buddha.

Decreasing one's lifespan to Increase Parents'
In Kun Shan, Gu Dingchen was born when his parents were 50 years old. When Gu was young, he devoted to serve his parents; When his age was older, he wrote an article and burned incense to worship the Heaven every night. He wished the Heaven decreases his lifespan and increases his parents' lifespan. One night, Gu dreamed a yellow crane from the sky. When he saw it closely and found that it was the article that he burned. On the last line of the article had a comment, 'Dingchen was willing to decrease his lifespan to increase his parents', which is from his sincerity and reverence. His father could extend lifespan of 2 Ji², and Dingchen would pass the imperial examination and be Zhuang Yuan (Number One Scholar). Later, his father gain a long lifespan and Dingchen also passed the imperial examination.

1. Gu's mother passed away in delivery, so Heaven only increased his father.
2. Ji = 紀, 1 Ji equals 12 years.

The Sutra of Ananda's Query concerning the Ultimate Result of Practising the Buddha's Teachings as Good or Ill Luck.

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