



I-Ching & The World of Metaphysics

with great power, comes great responsibility

Who is Mencius?

Born in BC 372-289 near Shandong Province approximately 2300 years ago, he is a famous philosopher in the era of Warring State. He practiced Confucius teachings and ideology from Confucius's disciple. He represents the teaching of Confucius thereafter.

His 7 volumes of work named after him was properly archived in the library as classic scripture and later became a book must read for scholars who work for government. In Sung era 宋, Chu Xi 朱熹 had grouped 4 books of Mencius 《孟子》, Lun Yu 《論語》, Da Xue 《大學》, Zhong Yong 《中庸》 as classical Four scripture (四書) His famous preaching was humanitarian or righteousness '善' and benevolence '仁'; the word '仁' is made up 'two human' in Chinese words, such implying that one must respect human being and live together harmoniously.

Mencius's Mom 3 Moves 孟母三遷

Mencius had a poor childhood and only able to live near graveyard. Mencius liked to imitate the person performing ceremony for the death and often played with coffin. Mencius mother told him that if she does not move, Mencius would eventually ended up working for the death. Then after, they moved to a small village near market side where once again Mencius like to imitate people selling boar meat and chopping meat into pieces, Mencius's mother worried that would eventually affect his future. She decided to move the third time and this time closer to a school. Mencius imitated the students and learned his lessons in the school thereafter.

(This is an analogy that Feng Shui is an important aspect that impacting your children)

Mencius's Mom Dismantled Knitting Machine 孟母斷機

At the age of 8, Mencius's Mother sends him to school. One day, Mencius came back from school and told his mother that he is bored and tired with school. When Mencius mother heard what he had said, she was furious and dismantled her knitting machine and told Mencius that if he were to give up half way, he will be just like the broken knitting machine that is useless and meaningless. Mencius got his mother message well and clear, thereafter he decided to study hard and learned Confucius teaching and philosophies and work his way to become well known scholar.

By Kerby Kuek

