The Analysis of Wang Pi’s Thinking at the Study of I Ching (The Book of Changes)

Chuan-Cheng Kang  Chung-Chih Chang  Kuei-Ying Chuang
Far East University

Abstract

Wang Pi was the founder of the Reason School on I Ching study. His I Ching study has inherited the Reason School inclination of I Chuan. However, it was different from I Chuan; instead, he has applied the thinking of Lao Tze to interpret I Ching, which he took the thinking of ontology on metaphysics from “Lao Tze Annotated” as the foundation to interpret Zhou I and to explain the I Ching study more on metaphysics way. Wang Pi’s I Ching study claimed that the annotation of I Ching should emphasize more on the interpretation of Reason and reject the thinking of natural disaster or books about occult declared by scholars of Han Dynasty to restore the original objective of I Ching supported by the Chin Dynasty scholars. This paper has aimed at the characteristics of Wang Pi’s I Ching study that advocated the importance of Meaning instead of Numerology, Meaning oriented, Yao position, Hexagrams timing, and Yao changes, etc., items to render detailed analysis and investigation to explain his own thinking and outlines on I Ching.

Key words: Wang Pi, I Ching Study, Reason, Yao position, Yao changes