

## 神の民が選ぶべきいのち-申命記 30 章 20 節を中心にー

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**ABSTRACT** Kenichi OKUDA, “The Life that God’s People Choose -With a Focus on Deuteronomy 30:20”. In this study, we discuss the meaning of “וּבְחַרְתָּ בַּחַיִּים” (Choose life)” in Dt 30:19 in light of Dt 30:20. There are two different interpretation of “כִּי הוּא חַיִּיךָ” in Dt 30:20b. One is “ for this is your life”, and the other is "for he is your life”. This difference is crucial for understanding the life that God’s people choose. First, we discuss the function of כִּי in Dt 30:20b and conclude that the כִּי here is not speaker-oriented, but express a cause-effect relationship. Then, we discuss this conclusion from the viewpoint of the structure of Dt 30: 15-20 and conclude that the expression of Dt 30:20b is more personal than that of the previous verses. Further, we compare Dt 30:20b to Dt 4:6 and Dt 32:74, which are similar to it in content and structure. In conclusion, it is suggested that the meaning of Dt 30:20b is “because he is your life”.

Next, we discuss אֶרֶךְ יָמִים (“length of days”) in Dt 30:20b and conclude that אֶרֶךְ יָמִים in Dt 30:20b, and furthermore in Deuteronomy as a whole, does not mean only that they will live long on the earth but is used to connect the people of God with the Lord who lives forever and holds life or death authority over them.

Finally, on the basis of these results, we discuss the life that God’s people choose. It is suggested that Moses appeals to the people to choose the Lord himself who gives life to them and to have a personal relationship with the Lord rather than appealing to them simply to keep the words of this covenant. Moses uses the commandment “Choose life” in this context.