Reading response

Kierkegaard’s uses the term ‘the ethical’ for relating it with the universe. He stresses on the concrete meaning of the term that is not abstract. It means that ethics are the same for everyone and at the time. His concept states that the individual who has entered the universe has to follow ethical laws. The particular interpretation of the term indicates that one has to surrender himself to the universe. This reflects the need for accepting the laws of the universe. Ethics is associated with external salvation of an individual.

Tragic hero does not relate to the notion of ‘the ethical’. This can be understood by considering the example of Abraham who undergoes stress for knowing the possibilities of retreating into ethics. The story of Abraham involve ethics at different levels. As a father, he has an ethical obligation towards his son such as saving him from murder. His act of murdering Isaac reflects that he goes beyond ‘the ethical'. The decision of Abraham to sacrifice his son reflects negligence of his ethical duty. He can be seen more like a religious hero than an ethical one.

By faith, Kierkegaard means to believe in the impossible and against obedience. He claimed that many Christians are relying on the wrong definition of faith that convinces them to relate it with the notion of obedience. True faith according to Kierkegaard is to believe in something that one thinks is impossible. An individual continues to experience moments of faith over and over again because there is no end to it. He rejects the faith explained by the clergyman or the church. True faith always means choosing the impossible and rendering to solitary experience in the realm of faith. The central argument made by Kierkegaard states that faith is not constrained or limited.