

Essay from the Bold Pastor
#90 -This is not a scandal! -

There were a lot of home-run in this year because of an easy hop baseball. It stunned a baseball world in Japan. On June 11, NPB(Nippon Professional Baseball Organization) has admitted the fact in the official meeting of Japan Professional Baseball Players Association that they arranged coefficient of restitution for “the consolidated baseball” to make it extend distance from this season.

Basically, this baseball was adopted by NPB, because Kato Ryoza, the commissioner of NPB saw Japanese player being upset by the different baseball in WBC(World Baseball Classic) back in 2009. In order to use the same ball as US major league, WBC encouraged Japan to consolidate a baseball as close as world standard. Kato indeed is well known for Japanese living in the US due to serving as Japanese ambassador to the US for 6 ½ years long. As I recall he had a boring speech which makes us sleepy on every new year’s day in Washington DC as typical peculiar bureaucrat. However I was surprised in the interviews of this object that his eyes were wide open and refutes “this is not a scandal!” and persists in denying his knowledge of it. But, the problem is actually way deeper.

Unlike the US major league baseball, “the Owner’s Conference” that manages the league has rights to operate and the commissioner shall be mere successive objectives in the Japanese professional baseball league, then even an “elite Mr. Kato” is no exception to this rule. Their priorities are not about the league but the benefit of industry. So, nothing changed even more than 250 reporters came over from the press or Hiroshi Mikitani (known as Big Boss)the owner of Rakuten, showed up for the first time in last 5 years. The commissioner is actually just a safety device that stands out such only time in need.

As a result of it, the system that no one would take a responsibility works perfectly. Therefore such a way of Japanese caused the pacific war, the bubble economy corruption in 80’s, and the nuclear disaster lately. I think the reason why there are few Christians in Japan is that the culture doesn’t resist such a shameful matter. Because, in order to recognize the Christ, we need to recognize our sin as a scandal and our need of the salvation first.

Bible says

“ If we say we have no sin, we are only fooling ourselves and refusing to accept the truth.”
1 John 1:8

As long as we consider ourselves “right” and hide our fact of sin, we can’t accept the truth of Christ. Now, I pray again for that all of Japanese admit their sins and accept Jesus Christ to be saved as fast as they can.
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