

巍巍風範憶上人

Remembering the Venerable Master's Lofty Example

摘錄自宣化上人答問錄——金剛棒喝

EXCERPT FROM VAJRA STRIKES

比丘尼近廣 英譯

ENGLISH TRANSLATED BY BHIKSHUNI JIN GWANG



問：爲何您的法名是上宣下化？

上人：這是我的名字，你知道它幹什麼？
這個就是地獄鬼嘛！

問：您從中國哪裏來的？您如何開始學習佛法的？

上人：這個恐怕講幾年也講不完，就是喜歡學習佛法，所以就學習佛法，這是簡單的說。本來我是從中國來的，但是我想，我也不是中國人，也不是美國人，也不是日本人，哪一個國家也不要我「因爲

我是世界最笨的一個人，所以他們都不要我。」我不是從天上來的，我不是耶穌。我不是從極樂世界來的，所以我不是阿彌陀佛。我也不是從琉璃世界來的，所以也不是消災延壽藥師佛。

問：您也有老師吧？

上人：當然有，而且很多。我追隨過許多位大和尚，虛雲法師對我助益最多。

問：你是什麼教？

上人：我是真理教，我是人教，我是眾

Q: Why is your Dharma name Hsuan Hua?

A: Why do you want to know about my name? This is a ghost from hell!

Q: From which part of China did you come? How did you begin learning about the Buddhadharma?

A: I probably could not finish my answer to this question in several years. To put it simply, I enjoyed learning the Buddhadharma so I studied the Buddhadharma. I am originally from China, but I believe that I'm not Chinese, American, or Japanese. (No country wants me because I'm the dumbest person in the world.) I didn't come down from Heaven. I'm no Jesus. I didn't come from the Land of Ultimate Bliss, so I'm not Amitabha Buddha. I'm not from the Land of Lapis Lazuli, so I'm not Medicine Master Buddha who Quells Disasters and Lengthens Life.

Q (by a reporter): You must have had teachers too?

A: Of course, lots of them. I have followed many great monks. Dharma Master Hsu Yun helped me the most.

Q: What is your religion?

A: My religion is that of the principles of truth, of humans, of living beings, of the general public, and of wisdom.

Q: Great Master, let me first ask you, how come you became a monk?

A: I was probably meant to become a monk.

Q: Master, what motivated you to become a monk in the first place?

A: Why do you want to know about my becoming a monk?

生教，我是大眾教，智慧教。

問：大師，請問您怎麼會想到出家的？

上人：我大概天生就是要當和尚的吧！

問：請問上人當初出家的動機？

上人：我出家是我出家，你問它幹什麼呢？你想要刨我的根，我已經沒有根了。

問：上人出家以來，一直堅持著「日中一食」、「夜不倒單」的戒律生活，您這麼受苦，有必要嗎？

上人：省下我的糧食給眾生，省下我的衣服給眾生，我曾許下願：法界眾生一切苦難，都由我一人代受。

問：一般人都說你有好幾通。

上人：我不承認的，都是偶而碰巧的。應該不會死的，求我也不會死；應該死的，求我也不會活，這你們懂嗎？

問：為什麼師父的記憶力這麼好？一般人應如何修呢？

上人：生生世世修無漏的法門。

問：無漏怎麼修呢？(p.136)

上人：回去多讀《楞嚴經》。

問：師父你既然心懷中國，為什麼把自己的道場設在美國？

上人：我一向是人棄我揚，別人不去的地方我去。臺灣這裡多的是道場。

問：上人到西方如何弘揚佛法？

上人：我是憑著觀世音菩薩、大悲咒和楞嚴咒。

弟子：上人坐的車子又小又熱！

上人：地獄更熱。

問：上人要不要觀光？

上人：觀光？我什麼都看過了。

問：師父生過病否？如有，如何治療？自療或經西方醫學？

上人：「病從口入，禍從口出」，你儘吃好東西，補的太多了，會生病；我不敢吃好東西，所以也沒生病。我用西藥也沒有錢，用中醫更沒有錢，就乾脆不用醫生，死也不要緊，活也不要緊。

弟子：師父再不吃東西就要病倒了。

上人：我不吃東西，只是身痛。你們不能好好修行，我的心更痛。

問：為什麼每次外出，師父都不累，弟子們已疲倦不堪呢？

上人：我不是不累，我是用我的意志力去克服它。

問：師父為什麼都走在弟子的後面？

上人：我是人棄我取，人取我予。人棄我取就是不爭、不貪、不求；人取我予就是不自私、不自利、不打妄語。

You want to dig to my roots that have been long gone.

Q: Venerable Master, since becoming a monk, you have persevered in maintaining a life according to the precepts such as eating one meal a day and sleeping sitting up. Is it necessary for you to suffer so much?

A: I want to save my food and my clothes for other living beings. I made a vow to bear the sufferings of all living beings in the Dharma Realm.

Q: Most people say that you have several kinds of supernatural powers...

A: I will not admit to it. It's just coincidental. Those who are meant to live will not die by asking me for help. Those who are meant to die will not live by asking me for help. Do you understand?

Q: Why is the Master's memory so excellent? How should most people develop that?

A: Practice non-outflow dharmas in life after life.

Q: How do we cultivate non-outflow dharmas?

A: Go back and read the *Shurangama Sutra* more often.

Q: Master, since you still reminisce about China, why did you establish your monasteries in the United States?

A: I have always been one to take what others had abandoned and to go where

others don't want to go. There are plenty of temples in Taiwan already.

Q: How did the Venerable Master propagate the Buddhadharma in the West?

A: I did it based on the power of Guanshiyin Bodhisattva, the Great Compassion Mantra, and the Shurangama Mantra.

Disciple: The car that the Venerable Master uses is small and hot!

A: The hells are even hotter!

Q: Does the Master want to do some sightseeing?

A: Sightseeing? I've seen everything.

Q: Has the Master been sick before? If so, how did you treat yourself? Did you heal yourself or did you use Western medicine?

A: "Sickness enters through the mouth, and disasters exit from the mouth." You'll get sick if you only eat good food that is too nourishing. I don't dare to eat anything good; that's why I don't get sick. I don't have enough money for Western medicine, and even less for Chinese medicine. So I figure that I might as well not use any doctor. It's okay to die and it's okay to live.

Disciple: Master, if you don't eat you will collapse.

A: It's only my body that hurts if I don't eat. However, if you do not cultivate well, my heart is in even more pain.

Q: How come every time we go out, the Master is never tired, and yet the disciples are already extremely tired?

A: It's not that I am not tired, but that I overcome it with my willpower.

Q: Master, why do you always walk behind your disciples?

A: I pick up what people toss away. I give people what they want. To pick up what people toss away is to not fight, to not be greedy, and to not seek; to give people what they want is to be selfless, to refrain from pursuing personal advantage, and to refrain from lying.