



# 竇禹鈞

## DOU YU JUN

宣公上人講於一九八八年八月五日

LECTURED BY THE VENERABLE MASTER HUA ON AUGUST 5, 1988

朱果凡 英譯 ENGLISH TRANSLATED BY NANCY CHU

五代後晉時，河北幽州人，自幼喪父，事母孝，不違逆母言。二十娶妻，三十無子，為傳宗接代而憂。夜夢祖父告曰：「汝命無子，多行善事，可轉業力，挽回命運。」寤時誓言：「諸惡不作，眾善奉行。」於「但行好事，莫問前程」之原則下，廣濟世人。

其僕私取二萬錢銀，逃避他方，寫債券掛於小女胸前，內云：「永賣此女，償所負債。」竇焚其債券，善待僕女，成長擇婿而嫁。

鄉人親友，無錢購棺者，乃施棺葬殮；無錢婚嫁者，乃施資助之。使令內無怨女，外無曠夫。無能生活者，無息貸款；無力讀書者，代付束脩。

因救苦濟急之善事，感天賜五子，名儀儼侃僂僖，皆中進士，光宗耀祖，名揚四海。三字經云：「竇燕山，有義方；教五子，名俱揚。」

### Essay :

Dou Yu Jun lived in the Latter Jin Dynasty of the Five Dynasties Era and was from Youzhou of Hebei. He lost his father when he was little and was very filial to his mother, never disobeying her words. At age twenty he married, and at thirty he still had no sons. He worried about not being able to carry on the ancestral lineage to the next generation. One night, he dreamt of his grandfather, who said, "Your fate is to be without a son, but if you do an abundant number of wholesome deeds, you will influence the force of karma and turn your destiny around." Upon awakening, he vowed, "I shall refrain from all evil and offer up all good." Under the principle of "Just do good deeds and pay no attention to the future rewards," he aided innumerable people.

Once his servant stole twenty thousand taels of silver and escaped to another place. The servant left a note of debt hanging around his young daughter's neck, which said, "I sell this girl to pay the debt I owe you." Dou burned the note and treated the servant's daughter well. After she grew up, Dou chose a man and arranged her marriage.

When villagers and friends had no money to buy coffins, he would offer them coffins so they could bury the deceased. For those who could not afford to get married, he would help them by giving them money, so that there would be no unmarried men and women of marriageable age. He would lend money without interest to those who were unable to make a living. For those who had no money for schooling, he would pay for their tuition.

Because of his good deeds in helping the poor and desperate, Heaven was moved to grant him five sons, whom he named Yi (composure), Yen (Dignity), Kan (Straightforward), Cheng (agreeable), and Xi (Joy). They all passed the imperial examination and glorified their ancestors. Their fame spread throughout the Four Seas. The *Three Character Classic* says, "Dou of Swallow Hills had a just and righteous method for teaching his five sons, so they all became renowned."

今天講後晉時代的一個善人，叫竇禹鈞。竇禹鈞是五代時候後晉的人，在幽州河北那地方出生。他從青年的時候，父親就死去了，可是他對母親很孝順；他母親無論說什麼話，他都順承其意，不違背他母親的意旨。

他二十歲的時候就結婚，預備生男育女，傳宗接代；可是到三十歲還沒有得到兒子，所以他為著繼續祖上的香煙，傳宗接代這個事情很執著，很憂愁。他這憂愁大約也感動他的祖父了，於是乎晚間就做夢，夢見他祖父說：「在你這一生的命運裏頭，你不應該有兒子。你若想有兒子，你要改過遷善，盡量做善事。你若能夠這樣，這種命運可以轉變過來，可以把你的業力減輕了它，挽回你這個沒有兒子的命運。」

他醒了之後，自己就發願，以後就盡量諸惡不作，眾善奉行。發這個願之後，他就本著「但行好事，莫問前程」這種的理論來廣行救濟的事情。

他的僕人偷取二萬錢銀逃避他方，寫下債券掛在小女兒胸前，債券上說：「我賣掉女兒，以償還所負的債。」竇焚毀這債券，好好善待這僕女，她長大成人後，並幫她找好夫婿而出嫁。

遇到人死了沒有棺材的，他就送一口棺材給人；人沒有錢結婚的，他就幫助人來結婚；人生活有問題的，他就借給他們錢，不要利息，令他們生活能過去這個危難的關頭；有的讀書繳不起學費的，他就代繳學費。

這樣的做種種的善事，「諸惡不作，眾善奉行」，在這種情形之下，所以就感格天庭，感到上天了。上天就賜給他五個兒子，這五子都中進士，都是科第出生。他這五個兒子：一個叫竇儼，一個叫竇儀，一個叫竇侃，一個叫竇僖，一個叫竇僖；都中進士，都能光宗耀祖，揚名聲，顯父母，光於前，顯於後。

所以在〈三字經〉上就說過：

「竇燕山，有義方；

教五子，名俱揚。」

這就是說的這個竇禹鈞竇老先生。

☞待續

### Commentary :

Today we will talk about a good man from the later Jin Dynasty of the Five Dynasties Era called Dou Yu Jun. He was born in Youzhou, in Hebei. His father died when he was young, and he was very filial to his mother. He accorded with her no matter what she said and never went against her wishes.

He was married at the age of twenty, but by the age of thirty he still had no children. He was very much concerned about being able to continue the family lineage. He was very attached to this matter. His unhappiness moved his grandfather, who appeared in his dream one night. In this dream his grandfather said, "You were not fated to have a son in your life. If you want to have a son, you must mend your ways and become a new man. Do as many good deeds as possible. If you can do this, then you can change your fate and lighten your karma."

When he awoke, he vowed to do all good and refrain from doing all evil. After making this vow, he thought that he would do things according to the principle of, "Just do good deeds and pay no attention to the future rewards." Therefore, he began to practice universal giving to relieve others from unfortunate situations.

Once his servant stole twenty thousand taels of silver and escaped to another place. The servant left a note of debt hanging around his young daughter's neck, which said, "I sell this girl to pay the debt I owe you." Dou burned the note and treated the servant's daughter well. After she grew up, Dou chose a man and arranged her marriage.

He provided coffins for the deceased who didn't have coffins. When people didn't have money to get married, he would offer financial help so that they could get married. If someone struggled to survive, he lent them money and didn't take interest so that they could get past their hardship. He supported students who couldn't pay their tuition.

He "refrained from doing all evil and did all good." Under these circumstances, he moved Heaven, which conferred five sons upon him. All of his five sons were selected as officials in the national examinations. His five sons were named: Dou Yan, Dou Yi, Dou Kan, Dou Cheng, and Dou Xi. All of them, having been selected as candidates for the highest imperial examinations, brought honor to their ancestors and parents. So, it is said in the *Three Character Classic*,

"Dou of Swallow Hills

Had a just and righteous method

For teaching his five sons,

So they all became renowned."

This verse is referring to Mr. Dou Yu Jun.

☞To be continued