



五十四世 玉山師禮禪師

Dhyana Master Shi Li (Bows to the Master) of Jade Mountain (The Fifty-fourth Generation of Patriarchs)

宣公上人講於一九八五年五月三日 Lectured by the Venerable Master Hua on May 3, 1985
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師。一日。侍大明次。偶於生臺。見雀拾食。乃拍手。雀飛去。大明向師背上打一掌。師驚顧之。明日。若是雀子。我辜負你。不是雀子。你辜負我。師罔測。明日。幸是可憐生。互相辜負去。師因有省。師侍大明十載。深加秘重。一日。抽單。罔不疑怪。或問禮侍者何往。明日。諸方來。諸方去。何介意哉。日。參學何如。明日。道有參學。栽他頭角。道無參學。減他威光。

「五十四世玉山師禮禪師」：這是五十四世玉山，也是曹洞宗的，這位禪師叫師禮禪師。「一日」：有一天。究竟哪一天呢？誰也不知道，就那麼一天。「侍大明次」：他服侍大明禪師以後。「偶於生臺，見雀拾食」：生臺，好像廟上有一個臺是放蒙山時，送出米、送出飯，就放那個上面。他偶然在生臺，見那個雀在吃送出去的食物。「拍手」：於是乎他就在那兒拍手；「雀飛去」：一拍手有動靜了，這雀就飛出去。「大明向師背上打一掌」：那麼他拍手，這麼調皮，大明禪師在他背上打一掌。「師驚顧之」：他不會飛，他回頭，很怕的樣子，沒有飛。本來他師父打他一掌叫他飛，他不會飛，所以就驚顧。「明日」：大明就說了，「若是雀子，我辜負你」：你要是小雀，我很對不起你，

Essay:

One day, after Master Shi Li attended upon Master Da Ming (Great Brightness), he chanced to see a sparrow pecking at food on the Offerings Table. Thereupon he clapped his hands and the sparrow flew away. Master Da Ming slapped his back. Master Shi Li looked back in fear. Master Da Ming said, "If you were the sparrow, I've let you down; if you weren't, then you've let me down." Master Shi Li was dumbfounded. Master Da Ming said, "You're indeed pitiful! We've let each other down." Because of this incident, Master Shi Li was awakened. He attended upon Master Da Ming for ten years. Master Da Ming thought highly of and took special care of him. One day, Master Shi Li took his belongings and left. Everyone thought it was strange and suspicious. Someone asked, "Where did the Attendant Li go?" Master Da Ming said, "He came from all directions and went back to all directions. Why do you care about it?" The person then asked, "How were his studies and practice?" Master Da Ming said, "If I said he was accomplished in his studies and practice, I would be fitting a head where there was already a head; if I said his studies and practice were in vain I would be dimming his awesome light."

Commentary:

The Fifty-fourth Generation of Patriarchs – Dhyana Master Shi Li of Jade Mountain. The fifty-fourth patriarch was from the Jade Mountain and the Caodong Sect. He was called Dhyana Master Shi Li. **One day**, no one knew which day exactly, **after Dhyana Master Shi Li attended upon Dhyana Master Da Ming, he chanced to see a sparrow pecking at the food on the Offerings Table.** In the temple there was a Food Offerings Table for the Mengshan ceremony, during which the rice and such other food were placed on the table as offerings. **Thereupon he clapped his hands and the sparrow flew away.** The sparrow heard something astir and flew away. **Master Da Ming slapped his back.** Da Ming did so because Master

叫你飛起來；「不是雀子，你辜負我」：你要不是麻雀，你辜負我對你打一掌。那麼我現在教你飛，你不飛，你辜負我了；你不是小雀，我這錯了，我不對。你那麼手一拍，小雀就飛了；我現在打你一下，你也不會飛，你不是小雀，你辜負我對你打一掌。這一掌，就是也想叫你飛一飛，像那個雀似的。你們想是不是這樣子？

「師罔測」：他也不知道應該講什麼話？他不知道。罔測，就是他不懂。「明曰：幸是可憐生」：大明禪師說，你是很可憐的，很愚癡很笨的。「互相辜負去」：現在你也辜負我，我也辜負你，就算了！「師因有省」：這個時候，師禮禪師他就明白了；原來人這樣子不自由，人這樣子沒有用，也不會飛。「師侍大明十載」：他這一開悟了，他要找自由了；所以他在那兒給他大明禪師當侍者，做了十年侍者。「深加秘重」：這不是加持他，你們不要以為有一個「加」字，就是加持了。深加秘重，就是對他特別器重，特別看得起他，特別愛護他。秘重，就是有時候教他怎麼樣修行？怎麼樣用功？沒有教旁人這種道理，就只對他說。

「一日抽單」：有一天，他就跑了。抽單，就是誰也沒有告訴，他帶著衣單，拿起行李，自己就偷著跑了。「罔不疑怪」：他在那兒十年了，方丈和尚很相信他，為什麼他無緣無故跑了呢？是不是有問題？怎麼樣呢？大家就生一種懷疑，覺得很奇怪。「或問」：或者就有一個多事的人，就問：「禮侍者何往」：這個師禮侍者到那裡去了？「明曰」：大明禪師就說了。「諸方來，諸方去」：他從什麼地方來，到什麼地方去。他從哪個地方來，就到哪個地方去了。「何介意哉」：這有什麼奇怪的呢！有什麼奇怪。「曰」：這個多事的人又問，「參學何如」：他在這兒學得怎麼樣？他在這兒當參學，學習個什麼呢？「明曰」：大明禪師就說了。「道有參學」：道，就是說，不是修道的道。說你「道一句」，就是你說一句；禪宗裏就是道，道不出來也要道，逼著你道，不會講你也要講，就是這個。要是說他有參學嘛！「栽他頭角」：就是給他頭上又安個頭。這就是來捧他，來讚嘆他。

☞待續

Shi Li was mischievous—he clapped his hands. **Master Shi Li looked back in fear.** Shi Li was shocked and looked back in fear but he could not fly. Originally his master slapped him to make him fly but he could not fly. So he looked back in fear. **Master Da Ming said, “If you were the little sparrow, I’ve let you down; if you weren’t, then you’ve let me down.** If you were the sparrow, I’m sorry to make you fly; but if you weren’t, then you’ve let me down. You clapped your hands and the little sparrow flew away; I slapped you and yet you could not fly. The slap on your back was to make you fly, just like the sparrow did.” Do you all agree?

Master Shi Li was dumbfounded. He did not know what to say. He could not make sense of it. **Master Da Ming said, “You’re indeed pitiful! We’ve let each other down.”** Dhyana Master Da Ming said, “You’re so pitiful and stupid. Now that you’ve let me down, and I’ve also let you down, let’s just forget it!” **Because of this incident, Master Shi Li was awakened.** At that instant, Dhyana Master Shi Li was awakened. Human beings were confined and useless—they couldn’t even fly. **He attended upon Master Da Ming for ten years.** As soon as he was awakened, he wanted to seek freedom. Thereupon he attended on Dhyana Master Da Ming for ten years. **Master Da Ming thought highly of and took special care of him.** Sometimes he taught him how to practice and to apply effort. He did not teach other people but only taught Master Shi Li such principles.

One day, Master Shi Li took his belongings and left. He ran away without telling anyone. He simply took his belongings and went off. When nobody noticed, he just slid away with his clothing. **Everyone thought it was strange and suspicious.** He had been there for ten years and had gained the trust of the Abbot. Why did he leave without giving any reason at all? Did something go wrong? What happened actually? Everyone was suspicious and thought it was very strange. **Someone asked, “Where did the Attendant Li go?”** A meddlesome person inquired his whereabouts. **Master Da Ming said, “He came from all directions and went back to all directions. Why do you care about it?”** He came from—he simply went to that place. He went back to where he came from. Why do you bother about it? What is strange about it? There is nothing strange! **The person then asked, “How were his studies and practice?”** The meddlesome person again asked, “How was his practice when he was here? What did he learn?” **Master Da Ming said, “If I said he was accomplished in his studies and practice…”** In Chan, even if you are not able to say it, you have to say it. **“I would be fitting a head where there was already a head;** to say that he was accomplished would be superfluous; it would just be to flatter and praise him.

☞To be continued