

妙法蓮華經淺釋

THE DHARMA FLOWER SUTRA WITH COMMENTARY

【卷五如來壽量品第十六】

ROLL FIVE, CHAPTER SIXTEEN: THE THUS COME ONE'S LIFE SPAN

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現在講的是良醫，良醫就是譬如佛。我們再講個庸醫，庸醫就是殺人的，良醫是救人的。什麼是「庸醫」呢？就是這一些個旁門外道，佛教不是佛教、道教不是道教、儒教不是儒教、婆羅門不是婆羅門；這些個九十六種外道，這都譬喻「庸醫」。

我再講「庸醫」的一個公案，大家聽一聽！有一次，閻羅王吃東西吃得太多了，就生出來一種跑肚的毛病；跑肚，就是到廁所去，左一次、右一次，就是很多大便的。閻羅王受不了，叫這個小鬼，說：「小鬼，你快快去給我請個醫生來！」那小鬼說：「啊！我不知道哪個醫生好啊？你要告訴我請哪一位醫生啊！」閻羅王說：「你到醫生的門口，你看一看，哪一個醫生的門口鬼最少，你就請那個醫生來給我看看！鬼最少的那個醫生，他當然就是好，所以冤鬼才少！」這小鬼說：「這我知道了！我可以的。」他就到街上去請醫生。所有醫生的診所，他都到遍了，每一個診所的門口，都有一千八百的鬼，不是三千、就是五千，再不就是三百、五百。後來到一個醫務所門口，一看，喔！這個最少！只有兩個鬼在那地方哭，說這個醫生用毒藥把他們害死了。只有兩個！這小鬼說：「啊，這個醫生是最好的！把他請去給閻羅王治病去！」

請來了，閻羅王說：「請坐啦！醫生，你看看我是麼病？」他說：「不要看什麼病，吃點藥就好了！」閻羅王說：「你不看，怎麼就可以給吃藥呢？」他說：「我這個醫生就是這麼樣個法門嘛！你試試看，決定沒有錯的！」閻羅王說：「那你做醫生做了好久啦？」這個醫生說：「我今天才開張，頭一天做醫生！」閻羅王說：「喔！你——」

The Buddha is likened to a good doctor. But there are inept doctors who kill people. Good doctors save people. The quacks represent the leaders of deviant cults and sects and externalist ways. They may say they are Taoists, but they don't act like Taoists. Or they may say they are Buddhists, but they don't act like Buddhists. They may say they are Confucians or Brahmans or any one of the ninety-six externalist sects, which are analogous to quacks.

There's a good story about bad doctors: Once King Yama ate too much and got diarrhea. He sent a young ghost to find him a doctor. The little ghost said, "I don't know which doctors are good. How can I tell? Which one should I get?"

King Yama said, "Stand in the doctors' doorways and take a look. Pick the doctor who has the fewest ghosts hanging around his door. He'll probably be the best."

"Okay," said the little ghost, and he ran off to check out all the doctors' offices. Every single one of them had anywhere from three or four hundred to three or four thousand ghosts jamming their doorways. Finally he came upon one doctor's office where there were only two ghosts lingering by the doorway, crying, "He killed us with those drugs." "This must be the best doctor," said the ghost. "I'll take him to King Yama."

When King Yama saw the doctor, he asked him to sit down and take a look at him. "I don't need to look at you," said the doctor. "Just take this medicine here, and you'll be all right." King Yama said, "But you didn't even look at me! How can you give me medicine?" The doctor said, "That's my method! Try it out. It never fails." King Yama said, "Well, how long have you been a doctor?" "I started my practice today," said the doctor. King Yama grabbed the little ghost and took him aside. "Were there ghosts by his door?" he asked. The little ghost said, "Only two!" King Yama said, "Two ghosts on the first day! Two fatal

問這小鬼說：「他門口有沒有怨鬼呀？」小鬼說：「他門口只有兩個。」閻羅王說：「哦！你頭一天做醫生，就有兩個怨鬼被你給治死了；你要是做時間久了，還得了！好了，現在你不要回去了！我這個病，你給我治好了再回去；治不好，就不要回去了！」把這個醫生給扣留起來，這個醫生也變成鬼了！這個醫生有兩個治死的鬼，連他自己，就變成三個鬼。可見做醫生也不容易做的！

父見子等苦惱如是，依諸經方，求好藥草，色香美味，皆悉具足，搗篩和合，與子令服。而作是言：此大良藥，色香美味，皆悉具足，汝等可服，速除苦惱，無復眾患。其諸子中，不失心者，見此良藥，色香俱好，即便服之，病盡除愈。

「父見子等，苦惱如是」：這位良醫見著自己這一班小孩子都中毒了，所以就非常的苦惱，發狂了這個樣子，於是依照藥書上，藥性這種諸經的方法，找一點最好的、可以解毒的藥草。「色香美味，皆悉具足」：這個藥草的顏色非常好，味也不苦，也很美味、很甜的；看著也好看、滋味又甜，所以說色香美味具足。「搗篩和合，與子令服」：就是把藥材搗碎了，又用篩子篩一篩，然後給這一班小孩子，令他們吃這種藥。這是表示用種種的法，來教化這二乘的人，令他們都由阿含，經過方等、般若。在般若的時候，這就等於「搗篩和合」。「而作是言」：就說這種的話了。「此大良藥，色香美味，皆悉具足」：這是最好的一種藥，看著也好看，味道又非常香、非常甜，這個藥可非常好了！「汝等可服，速除苦惱，無復眾患」：你們這些小孩子，快一點把這個藥吃下去；你把這藥吃了之後，病就好啦！你這一切的痛苦就都解除了、沒有了！

「其諸子中，不失心者」：他這一班小孩子裏邊，還沒有發狂、還清醒的人，「見此良藥，色香俱好，即便服之」：見到這種良藥，色也好、味道也好，即刻就把這個藥吃了。這個「篩箕」之後——在般若之後，就到了法華的時候；法華的妙法，這叫「良藥」。「病盡除愈」：這個病完全都好了，什麼病也沒有了！這表示把見惑、思惑、無明惑都破了；破了之後，就開悟了，什麼病都好了！

☞待續

cases! You probably don't have such a bright future; I think I'll just keep you here with me, doctor." And so the doctor became a ghost. That made three ghosts in all. From this we can see that it's not easy to be a doctor.

Sutra:

Seeing his children in such agony, the father consults his medical texts and then searches for good medicinal herbs: colorful, fragrant, and good-tasting—perfect in all respects. He then grinds, sifts, and mixes them together, and makes his sons take them. And he says to them, "This is an excellent medicine: colorful, fragrant, and good-tasting—perfect in every respect. You should take it. Your agony will be relieved, and you will suffer no further torment." Among the children are those who have not lost their senses. Seeing the good medicine—colorful, fragrant, good-tasting, and perfect—they immediately take it, and their sickness is completely cured.

Commentary:

The good doctor sees that his children have taken poison. **Seeing his children delirious and in such agony, the father consults his medical texts**—the "Nature of Medicine" and such—**and then searches for good medicinal herbs: colorful, fragrant, and good-tasting**—not bitter, but actually very sweet—**perfect in all respects. He then grinds, sifts, and mixes them together.** This is the Buddha using various Dharmas to teach and transform those of the Two Vehicles. "Grinding, sifting and mixing" takes place during the Prajna period. Having passed through the Agamas and Vaipulya, arriving at Prajna is likened to "grinding, sifting, and mixing." **And makes his sons take them.** He has the children take the medicine. And he, the good doctor, says to them, "This is an excellent medicine: colorful and good to look at, fragrant and good-tasting—very sweet—perfect in every respect. It is exceptionally fine medicine. You should take it. Your agony will be relieved. Quickly take it, children, and you will suffer no further torment. Once you take this medicine, your illness will get better and all your pain and suffering will be relieved. They will disappear."

Among the children are those who have not lost their senses. Some aren't insane, but are relatively alert. Seeing the good medicine—colorful, fragrant, good-tasting, and perfect—they immediately take it, and their sickness is completely cured. After the grinding and mixing of the Prajna period comes the Dharma-Flower Nirvana period. The Wonderful Dharma of the *Dharma Flower Sutra* is called "excellent medicine." The children's sickness being "completely cured" means they have broken through the delusions of views, the delusions of thought, and the delusions of ignorance. Having done that, they gain enlightenment and have no more illnesses.

☞To be continued