





## REFLECTION IN THE WATER-MIRROR: TURNING THE TIDE OF DESTINY

# 王襄(續)

## Wang Pou (Continued)

宣公上人講於1988年7月16日 Lectured by the Venerable Master Hua on July 16, 1988 比丘近永 英譯 Translated into English by Bhikshu Jin Yong

可是他母親就有一個特殊的毛病,這個毛病是什麼呢?就是怕大的聲音;無論什麼聲音, 一大了,她就顫慄不安。顫,就是哆嗦;哆囉哆嗦的那麼樣子顫抖。因為她怕聲音,常常 因為這種情形抖慄而顫;於是乎每逢雨夜有迅 雷風烈的時候,他就陪著他母親,從晚間到天 明。時時都這樣子,不是一次兩次;他習以為 常,每逢有特別的聲音,他就去陪他母親。所 謂「病長無孝子」,但是他習以為常,所以這 還算是一個孝子。

也不知他這樣侍奉母親有多少年,他母親就病卒了——就是病死了。病死了安葬到祖先那個墳塋的地方。有一天烏雲滿天,狂風暴雨,電光閃閃,雷聲隆隆,閃電一個跟著一個,雷聲也一個跟著一個。王裒就想起來,他母親在生的時候,怕這個大的聲音;那麼現在她已經死了,葬到祖墳裏了,會不會在墳裏頭還害怕呢?於是乎他就兩步併做一步,趕快跑到墳上去,對他母親就說了:「母親!你不要怕,我這個做兒子的,今天仍然來陪侍你,你不要怕!」

後來,他又設壇授教,繼續孔聖的道統。他 招集一些個門人來授課,因為他有這樣的孝順 的一個好名,所以這個國家的這些個學子就紛 紛就教,紛紛到他這裡來求學。他教學生,主 However, his mother had a very unusual problem. What was this problem? She was afraid of loud sounds, any kind of loud sound. If she heard something loud, she would shake and shiver. Whenever this happened or if it rained at night, he would stay up with his mother through the night until morning. This happened often, not once or twice. He was used to this. Whenever there was an unusual noise, he would stay by her side and keep her company. It is said, "When one has been sickened for a long time, one's children will stop being fi lial to one," but he continued to do this, so he could be considered a filial son.

A number of years passed by. Although he took care of his mother in this way, his mother fell sick and passed away. After her death, she was buried in the ancestral grave. One day, there was a huge storm, with strong winds and heavy rain. Lightning streaks raced across the sky one after another and the thunder was deaf-ening. Wang Pou thought of his mother who was frightened of loud sounds when she was alive. Now she was dead and buried in the ancestral grave; would she still be frightened in the grave? He rushed to the grave and spoke to his mother, saying, "Mother, don't be afraid, your son is here to take care of you!"

Later, he opened a school and through his teaching continued the tradition of Confucius. He accepted disciples, and because he was well known to be a fi lial son, many students from all over the country came to study with him. His main emphasis in his teachings was the Eight Virtues. All of his pupils had to practice the Eight Virtues. What are the Eight Virtues? They are: filiality, brotherhood, loyalty, trustworthiness, propriety, righteousness, integrity, and a sense of shame. "Filiality" is to be fi lial to one's father and



要就是本照八德,講八德這個道理,灌輸一切的學生門人要實行八德。八德是什麼呢?就是「孝、悌、忠、信、禮、義、廉、恥。」孝,是孝順父母。孝順父母,不單孝順自己在家裏的父母,也要孝順世間的老人;所謂「老吾老以及人之老。」那麼這樣尊重老人,使老人有所養;老有所養,也就是好像安老院似的。那麼現在連辦安老院,都講賺多少錢,每一個老人身上可以能得到多少利潤?這個是錯啦!

那麼他「老吾老以及人之老」,因為他自己願意孝順自己的父母,推廣到全人類,來提倡孝道,孝順父母。悌,悌敬長上。忠,是忠於國家。每一個人都應該要有愛國的思想,不要替國家弄出一些個麻煩來。信,交朋友也要言而有信。這個信,就是一個人的生命,你要是沒有信用,就等於這個生命結束了,夭折了一樣;所以人人都不信任你了,你就沒有前途了!

禮,是對人有禮貌,不要一點禮貌都沒有。 義,做什麼事情要有一個適當的理,用這個適 當的理去處理一切的事情。廉,就是清廉。清 廉就是不貪,你要的我不要,你不要的我可以 把它撿來。恥,就是羞恥。無論做什麼事情, 你要有一種羞惡的心。對不起人的事情,不應 該去做去;對自己固然是要好,對於其他朋友 也都一樣要好,不要不吃虧,盡貪便宜。貪便 宜的人才是真吃虧,真吃虧的人就是真便宜; 不過我們一般人就算不過來這條數,所以往往 就只想要佔便宜,而不想吃虧。因為只想佔便 宜,不想吃虧,所以就培不住德性,就沒有肥 料,所以長起來就不發展,不興旺。那麼他教 徒弟,本著這八德來教化一切的門人;這樣 子,他對自己的母親能安然盡孝,對於學生能 盡心竭力地去教化,令他們改過自新,改過向 善。這樣一來,他的孝名就卓著了;人人知道 他是個孝子, 所以他這個孝名流傳到後世千秋 百代,都是不泯滅的。

贊曰:生性純孝 耕讀養親 聞聲顫慄 護母殷勤 雷震色變 雨淋心驚 禮義廉恥 日新又新 mother, and not just one's own father and mother but to all of the elders in the world. As it is said, "Treat all elders as you would your own." To respect elders and to take care of them is like a senior home. Now, when people establish senior homes, they all talk about earning money, and how much profit they can make off of each person. This is wrong.

So he "treats all elders as he would his own," because he is willing to be filial to his own parents, and then expand that to include all of humanity and promote filiality to one's parents. "Brotherhood" is to have respect for one's seniors. "Loyalty" is loyalty to one's county. Everybody should be patriotic and not create troubles for his country. "Trustworthiness" means that you should make friends that are trustworthy. Trustworthiness is as valuable as your life. If you are untrustworthy, then it is as if your life has ended and you die at a young age, because people will not trust you and you have no future.

"Propriety" is to be polite to others. "Righteousness," everything we do has an appropriate principle, with which we should use to deal with everything. "Integrity," is to be incorrupt, and to be incorrupt is to not be greedy. It is the attitude of "what others want, I don't want, and what others don't want, I can take." "A sense of shame," regardless of what you do, you must have a sense of shame. You shouldn't do dishonorable things, and you should hold yourself and your friends to this. Don't be afraid to take a loss and become greedy for gain; those who are greedy for material profits are the ones who are truly taking losses, and those who take losses are those who have truly gained. However, most of us can't figure this out, so we only want to gain and take advantages, and not to lose. If you do not take losses, you will not abide with the nature of virtue, which means one has no fertilizer to grow and flourish. He tried his best to teach and transform his students with the Eight Virtues so that they would turn over a new leaf and change their ways. Because of this, he was well reputed with his filiality. Everyone knew that he was a filial son, so his reputation perpetuated after his passing for myriad generations.

#### Praise:

Having an extremely pure filial nature,
He cultivated the land and studied to sustain his parents.
Upon hearing sounds the mother trembled,
He earnestly kept vigil over his mother.
When thunder rumbled, his face paled.
During the torrential rainstorms, his heart pounded.
Propriety, righteousness, integrity and shame
Were revived and restored day after day.

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「生性純孝」:他這個人生性很純的。純, 就是不夾雜一切的虛假的行為,就是你往真的 做,只有孝,沒有旁的,這叫純。那麼這樣 純,才是一個真孝。

「耕讀養親」:他是學他祖父,耕田讀書, 這麼來消遣歲月。

「聞聲顫慄」:他母親膽子很小,聽見什麼 大的聲音就顫抖,抖慄而顫。「護母殷勤」: 他侍候他母親是很殷勤的。

「雷震色變」:他母親死後,他聽到有大的 雷聲,他色就變了。為什麼色變呢?就想到他 媽媽是不是在那兒又睡不著覺了,又怕得不得 了呢?於是乎他就跑到墓地上去陪著他母親。 「雨淋心驚」:他怕他母親被雨一淋她這個墳 墓,她心裡就驚恐著。

「禮義廉恥」:他教育人家子弟的時候,他 就用「孝悌忠信,禮義廉恥」這八德,來教化 這一切的學子,這一切青年有為的人。「日新 又新」:日新,天天是這樣的;又新,每一個 時候都是要這樣的。

**約**待續

#### Commentary:

Having an extremely pure filial nature. To do something purely is to do it truly, without any hypocritical behaviors. He did everything toward what is true. In this case, it is filiality. Because of being so pure, it was considered true filiality.

He cultivated the land and studied to sustain his parents. He followed in his grandfather's footsteps, and passed his time farming in the fields and studying.

Upon hearing sounds the mother trembled. His mother was not very brave, and when she heard any loud sounds she shivered and shook.

He earnestly kept vigil over his mother. He was very diligent in taking care of his mother.

When thunder rumbled, his face paled. After his mother passed away, when he heard the loud sound of thunder his face would become pale. Why was his face pale? It is because he thought of his mother. Was she able to sleep? Was she frightened again? So he ran to his mother's grave to keep her company. During the torrential rainstorms, his heart pounded. He was afraid that when the rain fell on his mother's grave, she would be scared again.

Propriety, righteousness, integrity and shame were revived and restored day after day. He used the Eight Virtues of filiality, brotherhood, loyalty, trustworthiness, propriety, righteousness, integrity, and a sense of shame to teach his students. "day after day," means that they were like this every day, all the time.

**20** To be continued



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