

# 妙法蓮華經淺釋

## THE DHARMA FLOWER SUTRA WITH COMMENTARY

### 【分別功德品第十七】

ROLL FIVE, CHAPTER SEVENTEEN:  
DISCRIMINATION OF MERIT AND VIRTUE

宣化上人講 Commentary by the Venerable Master Hua  
國際譯經學院記錄翻譯  
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天鼓虛空中 自然出妙聲  
天衣千萬種 旋轉而來下  
眾寶妙香爐 燒無價之香  
自然悉周遍 供養諸世尊

「天鼓虛空中，自然出妙聲，天衣千萬種，旋轉而來下」：又有天鼓，在虛空中，自己就鳴起來了，自自然然、不假造作的，就發出來一種微妙的聲音。又有天人所穿的衣。天人這衣不像我們人所穿的衣服這麼重，他們的衣非常之薄，有千萬種那麼多。這千萬種的天衣，在虛空中旋轉而下到大會裏。

「眾寶妙香爐，燒無價之香，自然悉周遍，供養諸世尊」：又有種種寶貴的、微妙的香爐，焚燒最名貴的香。這種的香，自然就周遍法界，能供養釋迦牟尼佛、供養多寶如來，又供養釋迦牟尼佛一切的分身佛。

其大菩薩眾 執七寶幡蓋  
高妙萬億種 次第至梵天  
一一諸佛前 寶幢懸勝幡  
亦以千萬偈 歌詠諸如來  
如是種種事 昔所未曾有  
聞佛壽無量 一切皆歡喜  
佛名聞十方 廣饒益眾生  
一切具善根 以助無上心

「其大菩薩眾，執七寶幡蓋，高妙萬億

#### *Sutra:*

In empty space, heavenly drums  
Make magnificent sounds by themselves,  
While thousands of tens of thousands of heavenly garments  
Come whirling and swirling down.  
Wonderful censers studded with jewels  
Burn with priceless incense,  
Which naturally circles the surroundings  
As an offering to the World Honored Ones.

#### *Commentary:*

In empty space, heavenly drums / Make magnificent sounds by themselves, / While thousands of tens of thousands of heavenly garments / Come whirling and swirling down to the assembly. The gods have tens of millions of kinds of clothing, which are not heavy like human clothing. Their clothes are extremely light. **Wonderful censers studded with jewels / Burn with priceless incense, / Which naturally circles the surrounding Dharma realm as an offering to the World Honored Ones.** Shakyamuni Buddha, the Thus Come One Many Jewels, and the division body Buddhas of Shakyamuni Buddha.

#### *Sutra:*

The great assembly of Bodhisattvas  
Hold banners and canopies made of seven treasures,  
High and splendid, of a million varieties,  
In a procession that reaches the Brahma heavens.  
And before each Buddha  
Hang jeweled flags and banners of victory,  
As myriads upon myriads of verses are used  
To praise and laud the Thus Come Ones.  
All such things as these

種，次第至梵天」：在天雨小白華和大白華，和種種的寶香、種種的寶衣的時候，又有從地湧出這一些個大菩薩眾，各個菩薩都執持著七寶所造成的寶旛和寶蓋。這種的寶蓋、寶旛，都是非常之高、又非常之妙，不是我們人心所可想得到的，有萬億種那麼多。他們都很有次序的，由下方而上到梵天去。

「一一諸佛前，寶幢懸勝旛，亦以千萬偈，歌詠諸如來」：他們在每一位佛前，發供養心，都懸上寶幢和最殊勝的旛。他們也是用千萬億這麼多的偈頌，歌詠來讚歎這一切諸佛。

「如是種種事，昔所未曾有，聞佛壽無量，一切皆歡喜」：像這樣種種不可思議的勝事，在以前從來沒有的，這是非常殊勝的。所有的眾生，聽聞佛的壽命是無量的、是這麼長遠的，聽見這種不可思議的境界，都非常歡喜。

「佛名聞十方，廣饒益眾生，一切具善根，以助無上心」：佛的名號，在十方世界中的一切眾生都可以聞到；但是要有善根的，沒有善根的眾生，根本就聞不到佛的名號。佛廣大來饒益一切眾生，令一切眾生都具足這善根。沒有種善根者，令他種善根；已經種過善根者，令他善根來增長；已增長者，令他善根來成熟；已經成熟者，令他得到解脫。以幫助眾生發無上菩提心，發這無上正等正覺的心。

爾時，佛告彌勒菩薩摩訶薩：阿逸多！其有衆生，聞佛壽命長遠如是，乃至能生一念信解，所得功德，無有數量。

「爾時，佛告彌勒菩薩摩訶薩」：當爾之時，就是前邊彌勒菩薩說完偈頌之後；在這個時候，釋迦牟尼佛又告訴無能勝這位大菩薩說，「阿逸多！其有眾生，聞佛壽命長遠如是」：阿逸多！譬如有這種眾生，他們聽到佛的壽命像前邊所說那麼長遠，「乃至能生一念信解，所得功德，無有數量」：他不要說完全都信，就是能在這一念之中，生出一種信解——信而明白；他所得到的功德，沒有數量那麼多，沒有法子可以數得過來。

☞待續

**As never have been seen before.**

**Hearing of the Buddha's limitless life span,**

**All are filled with joy.**

**The Buddha's name pervades all directions.**

**He vastly benefits living beings,**

**All of whom perfect good roots**

**And are helped to bring forth the supreme mind.**

*Commentary:*

In the midst of the scattering of the small and large flowers, the myriads of priceless incense and clothing, come **the great assembly of Bodhisattvas**. They **hold banners and canopies made of seven treasures, / High and splendid, of a million varieties, / In a procession that reaches the Brahma Heavens**. These banners and canopies are very high and also very wonderful. Human minds cannot fathom the number of the varieties that exist. **And before each Buddha / Hang jeweled flags and banners of victory, / As myriads upon myriads of verses are used / To praise and laud the Thus Come Ones.**

**All such things as these—wonderful and inconceivable as they are—never have been seen before. / Hearing of the Buddha's limitless life span, such a long time, all living beings are filled with joy.**

**The Buddha's name pervades all directions.** All living beings of all the ten directions heard the Buddha's name. To hear the Buddha's name, however, you need good roots. If you have no good roots, you won't be able to hear the Buddha's name. **He vastly benefits living beings, / All of whom perfect their good roots.** Those who have not planted good roots, plant them. Those who have already planted them, nurture them. Those whose good roots have grown, ripen them. Those whose good roots have ripened, obtain liberation. **And with their good roots planted, they are helped to bring forth the supreme mind, the resolve for Anuttarasamyaksambodhi.**

*Sutra:*

**At that time the Buddha told Maitreya Bodhisattva Mahasattva, "Ajita! If there are living beings who, on hearing that the Buddha's life span is as long as this, can bring forth even a single thought of faith and understanding, the merit and virtue they will gain is measureless and limitless."**

*Commentary:*

When Shakyamuni Buddha had finished the previous verse, **at that time the Buddha told Maitreya, "Invincible" Bodhisattva Mahasattva, "Ajita! If there are living beings who, on hearing that the Buddha's life span is as long as this, can bring forth even a single thought of faith and understanding, the merit and virtue they will gain is measureless and limitless."** They don't have to believe it entirely, they just need to have one single thought of faith and understand. If they do, then the amount of merit and virtue they derive is so great that it cannot be measured.

☞To be continued