

妙法蓮華經淺釋

THE DHARMA FLOWER SUTRA WITH COMMENTARY

【分別功德品第十七】

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 Translated by the International Translation Institute
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寶鈴千萬億 風動出妙音
又於無量劫 而供養此塔
華香諸瓔珞 天衣眾伎樂
燃香油蘇燈 周匝常照明
惡世法末時 能持是經者
則為已如上 具足諸供養

「寶鈴千萬億，風動出妙音」：有千萬億的寶鈴在虛空中這麼懸掛著，風一吹，就發出微妙的法音。「又於無量劫，而供養此塔，華香諸瓔珞、天衣眾伎樂」：又在無量劫以前，而供養這寶塔，有種種的華、種種的香、種種的瓔珞，又有種種天衣、種種天上的伎樂。「燃香油蘇燈，周匝常照明」：點起香油燈和酥油燈，這種的燈光常常地照明法界。周匝，就照得很周遍的，什麼地方都可以照到。

「惡世法末時，能持是經者」：在將來五濁惡世的末法時期，若有能受持這一部《妙法蓮華經》的人，「則為已如上，具足諸供養」：他就具足上邊所說的一切的供養，可以得到一切供養的這種功德。

若能持此經 則如佛現在
以牛頭栴檀 起僧坊供養
堂有三十二 高八多羅樹
上饌妙衣服 床臥皆具足
百千眾住處 園林諸浴池
經行及禪窟 種種皆嚴好

Sutra:

Hung with millions and millions of jeweled bells,
Making wonderful sounds in the wind.
And also, throughout limitless eons,
He shall have made offerings to this stupa
Of flowers, incense, beads,
Heavenly garments, and all kinds of music.
He shall burn fragrant oil lamps and butter lamps,
Which shine brightly all around.
In the evil age, during the Dharma's demise,
He who can uphold this Sutra,
Will then, as mentioned above,
Have perfectly made all these offerings.

Commentary:

These stupas will be **hung with millions and millions of jeweled bells / Making wonderful sounds in the wind.** They will make subtle and wonderful Dharma sounds. **And also, throughout limitless eons / He shall have made offerings to this stupa / Of flowers, incense, beads of all kinds, heavenly garments, and all kinds of music. / He shall burn fragrant oils lamps and butter lamps, / Which shine brightly all around** illumining the Dharma Realm. **In the evil age, during the Dharma's demise—in the Dharma-ending age—he who can uphold this Sutra, the Wonderful Dharma Lotus Flower Sutra, will then, as mentioned above, / Have perfectly made all these offerings.**

Sutra:

If a person can uphold this Sutra,
It will be as if in the presence of the Buddha himself
He used oxhead chandana

「若能持此經，則如佛現在」：假使你能受持、讀誦這一部《妙法蓮華經》，這就好像佛常住在世是一樣的。「以牛頭栴檀，起僧坊供養」：牛頭栴檀是香之中最貴重的。點這牛頭栴檀，四十里地以內，都聞到這種香。用這牛頭栴檀香木起造道場來供養。「堂有三十二，高八多羅樹」：所起造的殿堂有三十二棟之多，這也就表示「三十二相」；堂高有八多羅樹，這是表示「八十種好」。

「上饌妙衣服，床臥皆具足」：饌是飲食。供養最好的飲食，最微妙的這種衣服。床是臥具，是被、毯、sleeping bag（睡袋）之類的。就是供養飲食、衣服、臥具、湯藥，一切都具足。「百千眾住處，園林諸浴池，經行及禪窟，種種皆嚴好」：百千比丘眾在這裏邊住，又有花園子，又有樹林，又有沐浴的池堂，又有經行的地方，又有坐禪的地方。這種種的，都是非常莊嚴、非常妙好的。

若有信解心 受持讀誦書
若復教人書 及供養經卷
散華香末香 以須曼薝蔔
阿提目多伽 薰油常燃之
如是供養者 得無量功德
如虛空無邊 其福亦如是

「若有信解心，受持讀誦書，若復教人書，及供養經卷」：若有人對《妙法蓮華經》〈如來壽量品〉，能有信解的這種心，或者自己受持、讀誦、書寫，或者又教人受持、讀誦、書寫，以及供養這部經典。

「散華香末香」：散一些花香、末香。「以須曼薝蔔，阿提目多伽」：有人知道「須曼、薝蔔」是什麼沒有？須曼那，就是「稱意華」。怎麼叫「稱意」呢？也就是「適意」的意思。稱意，就是稱心滿意，這花非常之好，很細又很香。薝蔔，就是「金色華」，這種花也是很香的，有一股香氣。阿提目多伽，這是一種胡麻。這個胡麻的籽是紅色的，葉是青的，可以造油。所以用稱意華、金色華、胡麻籽來造油。「薰油常燃之」：這個「薰」，也是一種花，這種花也可以製作出油；在《法華經》所在之處，用這種油點燈。

「如是供養者，得無量功德，如虛空無邊，其福亦如是」：像這種種的供養，能以得到無量無邊那麼多的功德，好像虛空那麼樣的無量無邊的。他得到的福德，也像虛空這麼大，也是沒有邊際。

待續

To build Sangha dwellings as offerings to him.

These thirty-two halls,
Eight *tala* trees in height,
Replete with fine food, clothing,
And bedding, wherein
Hundreds of thousands may dwell,
Will be amply adorned with gardens, groves, bathing ponds,
Pathways, and Dhyana caves.

Commentary:

If a person can uphold, read, and recite **this Sutra**, / **It will be as if in the presence of the Buddha himself**, who always remains in the world, **he used oxhead chandana** / **To build Sangha dwellings as offerings to him**. Oxhead chandana is a very expensive incense. Its fragrance permeates a distance of forty miles as an offering to the Sangha. **These thirty-two halls**, representing the thirty-two marks, **eight *tala* trees in height**—the eighty minor characteristics—**replete with fine food, clothing, / And bedding, wherein**. Bedding refers to comforter, blanket, sleeping bag etc. **Hundreds of thousands** of left home people **may dwell, / Will be amply adorned with gardens, groves, bathing ponds, / Pathways, and Dhyana caves**.

Sutra:

He may, with faith and understanding,
Receive, uphold, read, recite, and write,
Or instruct others to write,
And make offerings to this Sutra.
Scattering floral incense, powdered incense,
And sumana, champaka, and atimuktaka,
And burning these constantly.
He who makes such offerings
Gains limitless merit and virtue.
Just as empty space is boundless,
So shall his blessings be.

Commentary:

He may, with faith in and understanding of the *Dharma Flower Sutra*, receive, uphold, read, recite, and write, / Or instruct others to write, / And make offerings to this Sutra, / Scattering floral incense, powdered incense, / And sumana. "Sumana" means "praise and will"; it is similar in meaning to "as-you-will." It's a very subtle but penetrating fragrance. He may scatter **champaka**, a very fragrant flower, **and atimuktaka**, which is sesame. **And he may be burning these constantly**. The sesame is made into oil for oil lamps. **He who makes such offerings / Gains limitless merit and virtue. / Just as empty space is boundless, / So shall his blessings be**.

To be continued