

比丘恒律講於2011年12月11日萬佛城五觀齋堂  
Talk given by Bhikshu Heng Lyu  
on December 11, 2011 in the Dining Hall of CTTB

# 祝大家龍年快樂

時間過得很快，轉眼之間今年就要結束，而成為歷史的塵埃。然而，我們將面對所謂的災難年——2012年，身為佛教徒，應該如何處之？

過去的大德如蓮池大師、虛雲老和尚、宣公上人都鼓勵大家：以念佛來消災、轉劫。那我們要念什麼樣的佛？應該念三世佛。什麼是三世佛？就是過去佛、現在佛及未來佛。

第一，誰是未來佛呢？你、我、他及一切眾生都是未來佛，因為我們畢竟會成佛的。如果能夠尊重眾生，不看輕眾生，不傷害乃至不殺害眾生的話，我們就是念未來佛。

第二，念過去佛。釋迦牟尼佛是過去佛中的一位，從釋迦牟尼佛的出生，到入涅槃，他總是慈悲地來利益一切的眾生。如果能夠盡力而為，去利益眾生的話，那就是念過去佛。

第三，念現在佛。您說：「我知道！那就是念阿彌陀佛的聖號，對不對？」答對

Time flies; this year -- 2011, is going to end and become history. Then we are going to face the next year, 2012, which is predicted to have many disasters. As Buddhists, how should we deal with this situation?

In the past, great virtuous ones, such as Great Master Lotus Pond, Venerable Master Hsu Yun, and Venerable Master Hua encouraged people to be mindful of the Buddhas in order to eliminate disasters and change fate. What kind of Buddhas should we be mindful of? We should be mindful of the Buddhas of the three periods of time. What are they? They are the Buddhas of the past, the present, and the future.

First, be mindful of the Buddhas of the future. Who are they? You, I, he, she, and all living beings are Buddhas of the future because we will all become Buddhas eventually. If we can respect living beings instead of slighting, harming, or killing them, we are being mindful of future Buddhas.

Second, be mindful of the Buddhas of the past. Shakyamuni Buddha was one of the Buddhas in the past. From his birth until he entered nirvana, he compassionately benefits living beings all the time. If we can try our best to benefit living beings, then we are being mindful of the Buddhas of the past.

Third, be mindful of the Buddhas of the present. You may say,

## ***Wishing You Happiness in the Year of the Dragon***

了！或者念一念藥師佛也是可以的。但是請不要忘記在我們身邊的兩位活佛，這兩位活佛是誰呢？就是我們的父母。如果我們能夠念佛名號以及孝順父母的話，就是念現在佛。

待一會兒，一點鐘在佛殿有放生的法會，這就是念未來佛，尊重一切的眾生；在兩點十五分，我們會繼續念阿彌陀佛的聖號，這就是念現在佛；從現在到一點鐘，無言堂會開放，歡迎您去瞻仰佛陀、虛雲老和尚、宣公上人的舍利，學習他們慈悲利益眾生的崇高精神，這就是念過去佛。

如果您還沒有受皈依，或者還沒有受五戒的，歡迎您十二點半到延生堂求受。這就是念三世諸佛，所謂「三世一體」。

明年是中國農曆年的龍年，在這裏先跟大家拜個早年。祝大家龍年快樂，身強如龍！什麼樣的龍呢？不是牌桌上的「一條龍」，是一條吃素的龍，是會孝順父母、利益眾生和經常念佛的龍。如果這樣子的話，這個世界和個人都會遇難呈祥、轉危為安的。

“That means to recite Amitabha Buddha’s name, right?” You are right. However, it is okay to recite Medicine Master’s Buddha’s name, too. Please don’t forget about the two living Buddhas around us: our parents. If we can chant the Buddha’s name and practice filial piety to our parents, we are mindful of the Buddhas of the present.

Later at 1:00 p.m. in the Buddha Hall, we will have the liberating life ceremony, which is a way to be mindful of the Buddhas of the future, to respect all living beings. At 2:15 p.m. we will continue reciting the name of Amitabha Buddha, which is to be mindful of the Buddha of the present. From now until 1:00 p.m. the Hall of No Words will be open. You are welcome to pay respect to the sharira of Shakyamuni Buddha, Venerable Master Hsu Yun, and Venerable Master Hua and learn from their wholesome spirit to benefit living beings. That is to be mindful of the Buddhas of the past.

If you haven’t taken refuge or the five precepts, you may come to the Long Life Hall at 12:30 p.m. To take refuge is to be mindful of the Buddhas of the three periods of time all at once.

Next year in the Chinese lunar calendar is the year of the dragon. I wish that you’ll be happy in the year of the dragon and that your body will be strong like the dragon’s. What kind of dragon? This dragon is vegetarian, practices filial piety, benefits living beings, and recites the Buddha’s name all the time. In this way, the disasters of the world and individuals will decrease or disappear.