

CITY of TEN THOUSAND BUDDHAS

is The True Place for Cultivating

：宣化上人1993年開示於萬佛城
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DHARMA TALK DHARMA RAIN | 法語法雨

（上人：光陰不多，我還要藉我的心，負起我的責任，來給大家講講文化、道理和一般普通的知識。）

道場裏的人，最基本的條件，是不惹其他的人生煩惱，不讓其他的人退道心，這是做人的基本。然後你再用功，參禪也好、念佛也好，無論幹什麼，你都本照十方諸佛的慈悲喜捨、四無量心來修行，這才能有所成就的。

你天天怕自己吃了虧，在道場裏邊多做

The Master says, “Time is running short, and although I’m still not feeling well, I will try my best to teach you something about culture, principles, and common sense. I give you my best from the bottom of my heart.

For those who live in the Way place, the least they can do is not to bother others and not cause people to lose their Bodhi resolves. This is the basic of being a human being. You may work hard, either investigating Chan or reciting the Buddha’s name, but no matter what you do, only when you practice according to the Buddhas of the ten directions and their the “four unlimited aspects of minds”, (kindness, compassion, joy, and equanimity), can you achieve something.

Every day you fear that you might suffer a loss and are unwilling to do any extra work for the Way place. Yet, at your job, you come to work on time and don't care anything about the temple. In the past when there were fewer people, everyone cared a great deal about the Way place. Now we have more people, but it is as the saying goes: "When more dragons are around, people have droughts or floods." Why didn't I say something before about this? It is because I want to build this Way place in the Western society and since we are at the beginning stages of project, one has to test things little by little, just as if we were conducting a new experiment in a laboratory. We gain experience slowly, and when the time is ripe, we want to keep only those who work hard in cultivating, and get rid of lazy workers. We will be "ruthless and spare none". No need to say more. If we can get one good cultivator out of ten thousand, I'll be happy. You can say that those who are around now are just learning and getting their feet wet.

America has a very different culture; it is a place rampant with strange religions and sects. Buddhism hasn't taken its root yet. Without the roots, nothing goes well and it is very hard to establish a Way place. For this reason, I would take in anyone, good or bad. Here we have people of all sorts from everywhere.

So in the future when we want to cultivate seriously, we want to curl up if we were dragons and lay down if we were tigers. We must follow exactly the rules and the prescribed orders. You cannot make the slightest mistake in cultivation. "An error the breadth of a single hair can lead you a thousand miles astray."

Therefore, in the future we'll establish a Chan hall, a recitation hall, a lecture hall for sutras and vinayas. We also will set up the Esoteric School. Here, we will have all kinds of studies that Buddhism encompasses. In U.S., we will build a Buddha Dharma place for true cultivation; it will be a fresh place that produces Buddhas and Bodhisattvas. I once said some twenty years ago that, "I'm a brick layer, a cement mixer, a bridge, and a road. Those who want to cultivate can walk upon me to the Buddha-land to become Buddhas. Those who walk upon me must follow the path of the Bodhisattvas. Those who shelter in the monastery, which I, the brick layer and cement mixer, have built will become Buddhas under its very roof." Yes, I have come to create living Bodhisattvas and Buddhas. This fact should not be taken lightly.

People outside of CTTB often say that we are highly

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一點也不願意。說是公事化，按時間來上班；不上班的時候，就不關心道場。我們以前人少的時候，反而人人關心道場；現在人多了，所謂「龍多四靠，不是旱就是澇」。為什麼我不說什麼呢？就因為我要在西方建立道場，這是一個開始的時候、起頭的時候。所以一切一切就好像在那個實驗室一樣，一點一點地來試驗，一點一點地來汲取經驗。那麼等到水到渠成了，那時候，要殺的就殺，要斬的就斬，把真實用功的留下來，把這些個混道場的清理出去。我不要說多，一萬個裏頭我能挑出一個人來，我已經知足了。現在這一些個人，可以說都是在學習期間。

因為這個國家，是一個不同文化的國家，是個異教橫行的國家，佛教在這兒，根本就沒有紮下根去；沒有紮下根，你這樣也不行，那樣也不行，所以就不容易建立道場。因為這個，所以好的人我也收，不好的人我也收；在這兒，三山五嶽的人馬都有，什麼樣的人都有，都到這兒來。

以後我們認真修行的時候，是龍要蟠起來，是虎要臥起來；都要循規蹈矩，按部就班，做什麼事絲毫也不能差的。差之絲毫，就謬之千裏。

所以，以後我們禪堂也要建立起來的，念佛堂也要建立起來的，講教也要建立起來的，講律也要建立起來的，密宗我們要建立起來。凡是佛教裏有的，我們都要有。在海外，我們要建立一個真正佛的道場、新的道場，要製造出來佛菩薩。我二十多年前就說過：「我是一個磚瓦匠，是個泥水匠，是個橋樑，是個道路。要修道的人，人人從我這個橋樑上到佛國去成佛去。人人走我這個道路，要行菩薩道。人人住我這個磚瓦泥匠造的廟，在這個廟裏成佛。」我說：「我啊！是造活菩薩、活羅漢的，不是就這麼隨隨便便的。」

所以萬佛城，外邊說我們道風好，我們要顧名思義；萬佛城規矩嚴，那我



為什麼還在這兒不守規矩？萬佛城是真正修道的地方，為什麼我在這兒不修道？為什麼我在這兒要躲懶偷安？為什麼我要在這個地方來混光陰？到了萬佛城，都要發萬萬分修道的心，不可以懶惰，不可以那麼隨便。

所以各位不要把光陰都空過了，一寸時光就是一寸命光啊！時光過去，你沒法再找回來。你不要把道場的飯都白吃了，就在這兒混吃等死熬歲月。萬佛城不留這樣的人！你們是這樣的人，趕快給我改過；不改過啊！你不要希望將來在萬佛城住。萬佛城是留真正修道的人，不是讓你弄一個假面具在這兒可以混光陰的。

為什麼被人家逼迫就可以，我自己就不能立定志氣，行人所不能行的？為什麼自己要那麼草包、那麼沒有用？你不真正用功修行，這叫造罪業。不要說你沒有功德，就算你做了功德，也把你造的罪業平均了。罪業重就功德輕，沒有什麼德行來做基礎，把光陰都空過了，把歲月也都白搭上了。所以我們在這個地方啊，要痛加針砭，痛定思痛。不要這麼好逸惡勞，吃一點虧的事情就不做；處處都想佔便宜，什麼事情都敷衍了事，苟且偷安！ ❀

disciplined here. We must reflect upon this and live to up our name. If the rules at CTTB are very strict, then why am I not following them? If CTTB is a place for true cultivators, then why am I am not cultivating? Why I am lazy and only seek comfort and ease? Why am I just drifting alone aimlessly and wasting time? When one is at CTTB, one must resolve ten thousand times to cultivate. You can't be just lazy or casual here.

Therefore do not waste time; every moment of time is a moment of life. When time passes, you cannot get it back. Do not waste the food of the Way place; don't act as if you just sit there eating your fill and wait for your death. CTTB can't have such people! If you are like one of those, you must change quickly. If you don't change, then don't hope to stay in CTTB in the future. CTTB is for true cultivators, not for people who put on a mask of cultivation but in reality squanders time away.

Why have we been forced to do something? Why can't we make a Bodhi resolve and do what others can't? Why are we such good-for-nothings? If you don't strive hard to cultivate, then you are creating evil karma, let alone if you haven't created any merit and virtue in the first place. And even you have some merit and virtue, your evil karma will cancel them out. If the amount of evil karma is heavy, then that of merit and virtue would be light. Without virtuous deeds to back you up, all your time would have been wasted, and so you would be wasting your life. Therefore, here at CTTB, we must not be lenient in finding faults with ourselves; we must draw lessons from painful pasts. Don't be fond of ease and averse to work. Don't always refuse anything when there is the slightest loss involved. In everything you do, do not wish for petty gains, muddling through your work for momentary ease and comfort. ❀