Dharma Flower Sutra with Commentary

正法印

PROPER DHARMA SEAL

The Merit and Virtue of a Dharma Master

CHAPTER NINETEEN: Commentary by the Venerable Master Hua Translated by the International Translation Institute

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這個人,他以父母所生 的清淨肉眼,能見到三千大 千世界。四果阿羅漢,也可 以看到三千大千世界; 初地 菩薩,可以看見一百個佛世 界;二地菩薩,更要加上十 倍, 這看的都不同的。

「下至阿鼻地獄,上至有 頂」:阿鼻是梵語,譯為無 間,就是無間地獄。無間, 沒有間歇,總受罪。無間地 獄裏頭,有五種的無間: 趣果無間、受苦無間、時無 間、命無間、身形無間。

這位受持《妙法蓮華經》 的法師,往下能看見阿鼻地 獄,往上能看見有頂天。 有頂天,是三界最高的一層 天,也就是非想非非想處 天。

「亦見其中一切眾生, 及業因緣果報生處,悉見悉 知」:下至阿鼻地獄,上至 非想非非想處天,中間這一 切的眾生,這位法師也都可 以看得清清楚楚的,以及眾 生造業受報的因緣,起什麼 惑、造什麼業、受什麼果 報,將來這果報,生到什麼 地方去?他完全都看得見, 完全都知道!

爾時,世尊欲重宣此義, 而說偈言:

若於大衆中 以無所畏心 說是法華經 汝聽其功德 是人得八百 功德殊勝眼 以是莊嚴故 其目甚清淨

「爾時,世尊欲重宣此 義,而說偈言」:在這個時 候,釋迦牟尼佛又想要把這 個道理說得再詳細一點,所 A person who gains six thousand meritorious virtues to adorn his sense organs can, with his flesh eyes, see the Three Thousand Great Thousand World System. Arhats who have attained the Fourth Fruition can see the Three Thousand Great Thousand World System. First Ground Bodhisattvas can see one hundred Buddhalands. Bodhisattvas on the Second Ground can see ten times as many Buddhalands. Sages have varying ranges of vision.

This person can see below to the Avici hells. "Avici" is Sanskrit and means "relentless". These Relentless Hells are a place of uninterrupted punishment. The Relentless Hells encompass five types of relentlessness: relentless in that everyone suffers retribution, relentless in suffering, relentless in duration, relentless throughout lifetimes; relentless because one person fills it in the same way that many do.

This person can see above to the Peak of Existence—the Heaven of Neither Perception Nor Nonperception, which is the highest point in the three realms.

Such a person will also see all the living beings therein, as well as their karmic causes and conditions, rewards and retributions, and places of birth. He will see what delusions they give rise to, what karma they create, and what retribution they must undergo. All of those he will see and know completely.

Sutra:

At that time the World Honored One, wishing to restate this meaning, spoke verses, saying,

If, within the great assembly, One speaks this Dharma Flower Sutra With a heart free of fear, Listen to me tell of his merit and virtue: This person will gain eight hundred Supreme meritorious virtues of the eyes, And because of this adornment, His eyes will be very clear and pure.

以又用偈頌來把它說一遍。

「若於大眾中,以無所畏心,說是法華經」:假 使在大眾之中,這位法師他沒有恐懼心,給大家講 說這一部《法華經》,令其他人都明白。在大眾 之中說法,是不太容易的,因為有一種大眾威德 畏。你如果沒有無畏的心,會生出一種恐懼,就 不能說法了。好像你們各位,能以對著很多人來 講說佛法,這都是不容易的一件事情。因為你有 這種聽聞《法華經》、講說《法華經》的功德,所 以在大眾裏邊,你都無所恐懼,沒有什麼可以怕 的心。你要是有所恐懼,則不得其正,你就不能 講法了。

「汝聽其功德」:這個「汝聽」,就是對著常 精進菩薩說的。常精進菩薩!你聽這位法師講經 所得的功德,我現在為你說一說。

「是人得八百功德殊勝眼」:這位法師,他 能得到八百的眼功德,得到殊勝的眼。眼睛怎麼 只有八百功德呢?因為它見前不見後、見左不見 右,所以就少了四百功德。眼睛看前邊、不能看 後邊,能看左邊、右邊又看不見了;它總有不圓 滿的地方,所以它的功德只有八百。

本來前邊有三百功德,右有三百功德,左邊又 有三百功德,那麼它因為只能看前,這三百功德 存在;左右,只能看得多分,而有少分它看不見 的,所以左邊兩百五十功德,右邊有兩百五十功 德,這合起來是八百功德。這是眼睛得這種殊勝 的眼功德。我們一般人也有眼睛,但是它只是看 而已,談不到眼功德;他得到殊勝的眼,這眼能 見三千大千世界。三千大千世界裏邊的事他也看 得見,外邊他也看得見,不要得天眼通他就看得 見!

「以是莊嚴故,其目甚清淨」:以這種種功德 來莊嚴的緣故,所以他就得到清淨眼目。

父母所生眼 悉見三千界 内外彌樓山 須彌及鐵圍 並諸餘山林 大海江河水 下至阿鼻獄 上至有頂處 其中諸衆生 一切皆悉見 雖未得天眼 肉眼力如是

Commentary:

At that time the World Honored One, wishing to restate this meaning, spoke verses, saying:

If once speaks this *Dharma Flower Sutra* in the great assembly, with a heart without fear: A Dharma Master whose heart has no fear expounds on *the Dharma Flower Sutra* in a great assembly so that all will understand the sutra. It is not easy to speak the Dharma to a great assembly because you may fear the awesomeness of the assembly. You will be afraid and not be able to speak the Dharma. For all of you who are able to speak the Dharma to many people, this is a challenging thing to do. You are not afraid when facing the great assembly because you have the merit and virtue of hearing and speaking of *the Dharma Flower Sutra*. If you have fear, then you will not be able expound on the sutra properly.

This person will gain eight hundred / Supreme meritorious virtues of the eyes. The eyes have only eight hundred meritorious virtues, because one's range of vision is limited. There are 250 meritorious virtues to the left, 250 meritorious virtues to the right, and 300 in front, making eight hundred in all. A Dharma Master who explains the Dharma Flower Sutra obtains these supreme and meritorious virtues of the eyes.

We all have eyes, but ordinary people's eyes have no merit and virtue. They just see things on the physical and material plane. But the merit and virtue of this person's eyes enable him to see throughout the three thousand great thousand world system—everything inside and outside. He doesn't need to gain the Heavenly Eye to see these things, either.

And because of this adornment, His eyes will be very clear and pure. The eyes he was born with will become clear and pure.

With the eyes given him from birth,

He will see throughout the three thousand
great thousand world system,

Inside and out, Mount Meru,

Sumeru, and the Iron Ring Range,

As well as the other mountains and forests;

The waters of the great seas, rivers, and streams;

Below to the Avici hell;

Above to the Peak of Existence;

And all the living beings within—

All of this he will completely see.

Although he has not yet gained the Heavenly Eye,

His flesh eyes will have powers such as these.

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