叫地震搬家

宣化上人開示於1973年禪七 李海昱 英譯

五年前的今天我曾經向各位說過,美國的佛教會開花;於是,開了五朵蓮花。有了這五朵蓮花以後,又生 出來千萬朵蓮花,沒有數量那麼多蓮花。今天這個蓮花開得更多了,究竟會有多少呢?這個數目我也算不過來 了。

五年以前,人人都說三藩市會地震,那時候我就對各位說不會地震!並且我說,地震這個事情是個小問題, 不是一個大問題。這個小問題,或者我還可以管一管,大的事情我就管不了了,就不需要管了!

怎麼樣管呢?可以叫這個地震搬家。東方地震搬到西方去,西方地震搬到東方去;南方地震可以搬到北方, 北方又可以搬到南方。你要是不相信,可以看看《華嚴經》,上面說得很清楚:

東方入正定,西方從定出。 南方入正定,北方從定出。 上方入正定,下方從定出。

我說,我在三藩市一天,就不准三藩市地震!這真是說得很大膽的話,沒有人敢這麼樣說話,但是我這個不 會算數的人,就要這麼說話。我禮拜一去紐約,你們要想不地震,就要到這個道場裏來聽經。各位誠心一點, 就感化得三藩市永遠都是平安的。咱們就憑講經這個功德,來迴向地方平安無事。現在《華嚴經》講到正文 上,以前講懸談,現在是談而不懸了。各位要是希望三藩市平安無事,就要時時來聽經,時時都來隨喜這個道 場的法會。

今天我很歡喜,為什麼呢?因為 Happy New Year (新年快樂),不能不歡喜,相信你們各位也都很歡喜的。 那麼大家共同努力,來把佛教推行到整個世界去。這是我的希望,並且希望人人都快點成佛,不要等。不要你 等我、我等你,成佛不需要客氣,誰願意先成都可以!參





Asking earthquakes to move

A Talk by Venerable Master Hsuan Hua during the 1973 Chan Session English Translation by Lotus Lee

Five years ago, I said that American Buddhism would blossom, and now five lotuses have bloomed [alluding to the five American disciples who first entered monastic life under the Venerable Master's guidance]. Starting with these five, in the future there will be thousands and millions of lotuses, an uncountable number of them. Today, even more lotuses have bloomed. How many will there be ? Not even I know.

Five years ago, everyone said there would be an earthquake in San Francisco, but I told all of you that this would not happen. In addition, I said that earthquakes are a small problem. I might be able take care of it; however, for the bigger ones, I probably won't be able to deal with them.

How would I deal with it? By asking them to move elsewhere, having an earthquake in the east move to the west and vice versa, or having an earthquake in the south move to the north and vice versa. If you do not believe me, just read the "Flower Adornment Sutra." It says very clearly:

One can enter samadhi in the east and come out in the west; Enter samadhi in the south and come out in the north, Enter samadhi in the zenith and come out in the nadir."

I said, "As long as I am in San Francisco, I will not allow earthquakes to occur here." Most people would not dare to make such an audacious statement, but since I am not the most sensible person, I said it anyway. On Monday, I will be going to New York, and if you don't want an earthquake, you should come to the monastery to attend the sutra lectures and participate in Dharma assemblies often. If you are sincere, the city of San Francisco will always be peaceful. We can dedicate the merit from the sutra lecture in the hopes that nothing bad will happen to this place. In our Avatamsaka Sutra lectures, we've already finished talking about the preface and are now moving on to the actual sutra text.

I am very happy today because it is the New Year, and I shouldn't be unhappy on such a day. I'm sure all of you are very happy too. I hope that you will all work hard to propagate the Buddhadharma to the entire world so that everyone will attain Buddhahood soon. Don't wait for others! When it comes to attaining Buddhahood, don't hold back or wait for others to go first. Whoever wants to become a Buddha first is very welcome to do so.