

# 做善事的好處

## Benefits in Doing Good Deeds

做善事有什麼好處呢？什麼好處也沒有。說：「那為什麼要做善事呢？」那麼，做惡又有什麼好處呢？說：「做惡事也沒有什麼好處。」那為什麼你要做？沒有好處的惡事你要做，沒有好處的善事你就不想做；一樣沒有好處，為什麼你歡喜做惡事，不歡喜做善事？

做善事本來是有好處的，但是你看不見，所以我只可以對你說沒有好處。我要說有好處，你說：「拿來我看一看，這好處在什麼地方？」我拿不出來給你看。現在我拿來給你看，怎麼拿呢？我給你舉一個比喻，這只可以用比喻來說明。比喻什麼呢？比喻那個樹木。做善事和這個樹木一樣，你沒有看見有什麼好處，可是好處一天就比一天多了。什麼好處？你做善事就能「逢凶化吉，遇難呈祥」，危險的事情臨到你身上，也變成平安，沒有危險。

所以，做善就好像那個樹木，你看不見好處，可是一天比一天善根就增長了。做惡好像什麼呢？好像那個磨刀的石頭，你看不見它少了多少，但是每一天就少了一點，日有所虧。

“What benefit is there when one does good deeds?”

“There are no benefit at all.”

“Then, why do good deeds?”, one asked again.

“What benefit is there if one does bad deeds?”

“No benefit.”

“If there isn’t any benefit in doing bad deeds, why do you do it? Bad deeds that brings you no benefit, you engage in. Good deeds that brings the same result, yet you don’t want to engage in doing them. Since both brings you no benefits, why do you prefer to do bad deeds instead of good deeds?”

Originally, there are benefits in doing good deeds but you cannot really see them. Since the benefits are invisible, I can only tell you there are no benefits. If I reply with a positive answer, one would ask, “Show me. What are the benefits?” Although I cannot show these benefits to you, I will do so anyway. How? I will demonstrate this point with an analogy. What is the analogy? Doing good deeds is likened to the growth of a tree. One doesn’t see any visible benefits but benefits increase and accumulate day by day. What benefits are there? It will turn misfortune into good accounts and disasters into blessings. When one is in danger, perilous predicaments will turn out to be safe, with no danger at all.

Therefore, doing good deeds is analogous to the tree’s growth. You see no visible benefits but your roots of goodness will increase every day. What is doing bad deeds like? It’s analogous to a sharpening stone. One does not see it diminishing, but the stone will disappear bit by bit every time it is used to sharpen a knife.

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Instructional talk given by Venerable Master Hua  
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