The Dharma Flower Sutra with Commentary

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【常不輕菩薩品第二宣化上人講解國際譯經學院記錄翻譯修訂版

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Revised version
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CHAPTER TWENTY:
NEVER SLIGHTING BODHISATTVA

四衆之中,有生瞋恚,心不淨者,惡口罵詈言:是無智比丘,從何所來?自言我不輕汝,而與我等授記,當得作佛:我等不用如是虛妄授記。如此經歷多年,常被罵詈,不生瞋恚,常作是言:汝當作佛。說是語時,衆走遠住,猶高聲唱言:我不敢輕於次等皆當作佛。以其常作是語故,增上慢比丘、比丘尼、優婆塞、優婆夷,號之為常不輕。

「四眾之中,有生瞋恚,心 不淨者,惡口罵詈言」:在這比 丘、比丘尼、優婆塞、優婆夷之 中,有增上慢的,心裏就生出一 種瞋恚;瞋恚,就是發脾氣了。 這常不輕菩薩給他一叩頭,他們 就發了脾氣,就用腳踢他的頭, 或者踢他的下巴,就打他。為什 麼發脾氣?因為心裏不淨。心裏 有什麼呢?就貪瞋癡太多了,這 三毒熾盛。為什麼增上慢?也就 因為有三毒。毒藥喝得太多了, 吃的迷魂藥也吃得不明白了,所 以就心裏不乾淨了。因為這個毒 太多了,好像喝醉酒了似的,所 以就罵人。罵誰呢?就這常不輕 菩薩。罵什麼?

「是無智比丘,從何所來」: 嘿,你這個比丘!真是愚癡到極 點了!你從什麼地方來的?怎麼 有你這樣的比丘!你太失佛教的 威儀了!你怎麼這樣子呢?一點 威儀都不修。威儀三千,你連一 樣也沒有!連罵帶打這位常不輕 菩薩。你看,給叩頭還被人打! 你想一想,這菩薩道是不容易行 的!

「自言我不輕汝,而與我等授 記,當得作佛」:你又說,你不 敢輕慢我們,又給我們這一些個 Sutra:

Among the fourfold assembly, there were some whose minds were impure, who became angry at Never-Slighting Bodhisattva, and abused him with harsh words. They said, "Where does this ignorant Bhikshu come from? He says to himself that he dares not slight us and predicts that we shall all become Buddhas. We don't need such false predictions!" For many years Never-Slighting Bodhisattva experienced such abuse, but he never once got angry. He often said, "You shall all become Buddhas." When he said that, people would beat him with sticks or throw stones and tiles at him. After this, he fled and stayed away from them but would still call at the top of his voice from a distance: "I dare not slight you; for you shall all become Buddhas!" Since this was his catchphrase, the arrogant Bhikshus, Bhikshunis, Upasakas, and Upasikas called him "Never-Slighting."

Commentary:

Among the fourfold assembly, there were some whose minds were impure, who became angry at Never-Slighting Bodhisattva, and abused him with harsh words. Among these Bhikshus, Bhikshunis, Upasakas and Upasikas, there were some who were arrogant and had harbored hatred. Hatred means getting angry. As soon as Never-Slighting Bodhisattva bowed to them, they lost their temper; hence, they beat and kicked him on the head or chin. Why did they get angry? This was because their minds were impure. What was on their minds? They had too much greed, anger and delusion — their three poisons were ablaze. Why were they arrogant? It was also because they had the three poisons. They drank too much "poison", as if they had taken a large dosage of hallucinogenic drugs, so their

人來授記,說我們應該作佛。那麼容易 就成佛啦?你簡直胡說八道!你這個人 真是愚癡!「我等不用如是虛妄授記」 :我們不要你給虛妄授記!要成佛才可 以給人授記,你現在這麼愚癡,盡亂講 亂說的,你真是太倒架子,太沒有用 啦!就罵他。他們以為只有佛才可以給 授記;其實,若人人都給你授這個記, 那你也就成佛了!

「如此經歷多年,常被罵詈,不生瞋恚」:像這樣子,這位常不輕菩薩修這種禮拜、讚歎、忍辱的苦行,修了很多年。雖然他常常被人罵,但是他也不生瞋恚,還不退心。那不是一次了,只要一給人叩頭,他就被人罵。如果有我相的人,被人打一頓這就怕了:這有人打我,有人罵我,再也不敢行這個菩薩道了!

「常作是言,汝當作佛」:他常常 是這樣說,你們都應該作佛!「說是語 時,眾人或以杖木瓦石而打擲之」:說 這個話的時候,眾人因為看他太愚癡 了,他一來叩頭,他們就用根木頭,或 者用杖,「梆!」打他頭一下,或者拿 石頭、瓦塊打他。擲,就是這麼由手裏 撇丟出去。「避走遠住,猶高聲唱言」 :他雖然無我相,但是打也會痛,所以 他就避走——他慌慌張張給人叩一個 頭,完了起身就跑得遠遠的。就這樣 子,一邊跑的時候,一邊還這麼大聲喊 說:「我不敢輕於汝等,汝等皆當作 佛! 「你看,所以一般人說他無智:「 發神經呢!唉,真是討厭死了! | 罵他 是一個神經病的。

「以其常作是語故」:因為他常常說 這句話的緣故,增上慢比丘、比丘尼、 優婆塞、優婆夷,號之為常不輕:所以 這增上慢的比丘、比丘尼、優婆塞、優 婆夷,就給他送了一個美的名稱,說他 是「常不輕」。你們切記不要做增上慢 比丘、比丘尼,也不要做增上慢的優婆 塞、優婆夷!這不是好好玩的。

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minds became impure. They were so intoxicated with this poison that they started to abuse others. Whom did they abuse? Bodhisattva Never-Slighting. How did they abuse him?

They said, 'Where does this ignorant Bhikshu come from? Hey, you monk! How stupid you are! Where did you come from? How could there be a monk like you! You lack the deportment of a Buddhist! How can you do this? You don't even care the slightest bit about your deportment. There are three thousand modes of awesome comportment, and you don't even have a single one! They would abuse and beat this Bodhisattva. You see, he bowed to others yet he still got beaten. Think about it, it is certainly not easy to practice the Bodhisattva Way!

He says to himself that he dares not slight us and predicts that we shall all become Buddhas. We don't need such false predictions! You also say that you dare not slight or disrespect us, and you predict that we shall all become Buddhas. Is becoming a Buddha that easy? You are just talking nonsense! You're really stupid! We don't need your false predictions. Only the Buddha can bestow predictions upon others. You are so muddled that you just make irresponsible remarks. You really disgrace yourself and you are good for nothing! They abused him. They thought only the Buddha could bestow a prediction. Actually if everyone bestows this prediction upon you, you will become a Buddha.

For many years Never-Slighting Bodhisattva experienced such abuse, but he never once got angry. In this way, the Bodhisattva Never-Slighting cultivated the ascetic practice of bowing, patience and praising others for many years. Although people constantly abused him, he never got angry or retreated from his resolve. This did not happen just once, but as soon as he bowed to others, he would be abused. People who are attached to the mark of self would be afraid of getting beaten up by others just once. They would think, "People beat and bully me, so I dare not practice the Bodhisattva Way anymore!"

He often said, 'You shall all become Buddhas.' When he said that, people would beat him with sticks or throw stones and tiles at him. Never-Slighting Bodhisattva would often say, "You shall all become Buddhas." When he said that, people would regard him as being stupid, so whenever he bowed to them, they would throw stones and tiles at or use a stick to hit him on his head. After this, he fled and stayed away from them but would still call at the top of his voice from a distance: 'I dare not slight you; for you shall all become Buddhas!' Even though he had no mark of self, he was still hurt when people beat him. Therefore after a hasty bow, he would rise and run far away. But even under such circumstances, he would still call out as he ran: "I dare not slight you for you shall all become Buddhas!" You see, because of this, most people said that he was stupid or a lunatic. "You are crazy! How disgusting you are!" They scolded and abused him.

Since this was his catchphrase, the arrogant Bhikshus, Bhikshunis, Upasakas, and Upasikas called him 'Never-Slighting.' Because he always said these words, the arrogant Bhikshus, Bhikshunis, Upasakas, and Upasikas gave him the beautiful name of "Never-Slighting." Take care that you do not become arrogant Bhikshus, Bhikshunis, Upasakas or Upasikas! This is no laughing matter or something fun.

20 To be continued