

妙法蓮華經淺釋

The Dharma Flower Sutra with Commentary



正法印
PROPER DHARMA SEAL

宣國修
化際訂
上譯版
人經
講學
解院
記錄
翻譯

【常不輕菩薩品第二十】

Revised version
Translated by the International Translation Institute
Commentary by the Venerable Master Hua
CHAPTER TWENTY:
NEVER SLIGHTING BODHISATTVA

是比丘臨欲終時，於虛空中，具聞威音王佛，先所說法華經二十千萬億偈，悉能受持，即得如上眼根清淨，耳鼻舌身意根清淨。得是六根清淨已，更增壽命二百萬億那由他歲，廣為人說是法華經。

「是比丘臨欲終時」：這位常不輕菩薩比丘，在他將要壽命完了的時候，「於虛空中，具聞威音王佛，先所說法華經二十千萬億偈」：在虛空中，他就聽見威音王佛以前所說的《法華經》，和《法華經》上那二十千萬億偈頌。「悉能受持，即得如上眼根清淨，耳鼻舌身意根清淨」：他不但聽見，而且還能受之於心、持之於身，就得像前面〈法師功德品〉所說，眼根也清淨了、耳根也清淨了、鼻根也清淨、舌根也清淨、意根也清淨、身根也清淨了，得六根清淨這種境界了！

「得是六根清淨已，更增壽命二百萬億那由他歲，廣為人說是法華經」：他得這種六根清淨的境界之後，不但沒有壽終，而且還又增加他的壽命了。增加多長的時間呢？可就長囉！有二百萬億那由他歲，有這麼多那由他，不知道多少歲！這麼二百萬億那由他歲，他做什麼呢？就是常常到處去為人講說《妙法蓮華經》

Sutra:

When this Bhikshu approached the end of his life, he heard in space, twenty thousand trillion verses of the *Dharma Flower Sutra*, previously spoken by the Buddha King of Awe-Inspiring Sound. He was able to receive and uphold them all. He immediately attained the purity of the eye, ear, nose, tongue, body and mind (as mentioned above). Having attained the purity of these six sense faculties, his life span was further increased by two hundred trillion *nayuta* years. He extensively spoke the *Dharma Flower Sutra* for others.

Commentary:

When this Bhikshu approached the end of his life, he heard in space, twenty thousand trillion verses of the *Dharma Flower Sutra*, previously spoken by the Buddha King of Awe-Inspiring Sound. When Bhikshu Never-Slighting was nearing the end of his life, he heard in space twenty thousand trillion verses from the *Lotus Sutra*, previously spoken by the Buddha King of Awe-Inspiring Sound. He was able to receive and uphold them all. He immediately attained the purity of the eye, ear, nose, tongue, body and mind (as mentioned above). He not only heard them, but also received them with his mind and upheld them with his body, (mentioned in the previous chapter, “The Merit and Virtue of a Dharma Master”). His eye faculty became pure, his ear faculty became pure, his nose faculty became pure, and so were his tongue, mind and body faculties. He attained the state where his six sense faculties became pure.

Having attained the purity of these six sense faculties, his life span was further increased by two hundred trillion *nayuta* years. He extensively spoke the *Dharma Flower Sutra* for

這種的妙法。這一位常不輕菩薩得到六根清淨，又常常給人講說《妙法蓮華經》；雖然沒有證果，以父母所生的身體，就得到這種的好處。

於時增上慢四眾，比丘、比丘尼、優婆塞、優婆夷，輕賤是人為作不輕名者，見其得大神通力、樂說辯力、大善寂力，聞其所說，皆信伏隨從。

「於時增上慢四眾，比丘、比丘尼、優婆塞、優婆夷，輕賤是人為作不輕名者」：在這個時候，以前對這位常不輕菩薩有一種貢高我慢的增上慢四眾弟子們——就是比丘、比丘尼、優婆塞、優婆夷。他們以前又打罵向他們叩頭頂禮的這個常不輕菩薩，又輕賤他，說他是一個最愚癡的比丘！輕賤這個人。又給他起了一個「不輕」的名的這四眾弟子。

「見其得大神通力、樂說辯力、大善寂力」：他們看見這位常不輕菩薩，果然得到這種大的神通力，又能以把《法華經》這麼多的偈頌都背誦出來，又可以為人講解，又樂於說法，得大辯才的力量，又得大善寂力。就是人家罵他，他也不發脾氣；人家打他，他也不生瞋恨心。外邊也沒有脾氣，裏邊也沒有脾氣，這叫個「善」。寂，在這種最不好忍耐、最不能忍耐的這種境界，他都能忍耐，這是有智慧。既能有忍辱力，又有般若的智慧，所以這叫「大善寂力」。

「聞其所說，皆信伏隨從」：當他們聽聞這位常不輕菩薩比丘說《妙法蓮華經》後，都信而服從了、降伏了；不像以前，又打他、罵他那樣子。於是跟著這位菩薩，這一位菩薩到什麼地方說法，他們就跟隨到什麼地方去聽法。

待續

others. After his six sense faculties became pure, he did not die; instead his life span was further increased. How long was it increased? It was for a very long time. It was as many as two hundred trillion *nayuta* years. People have no idea how many years this was! What did he do during those years? He traveled everywhere to speak the wonderful Dharma of the *Wondrous Dharma Lotus Sutra*. The Bodhisattva Never-Slighting attained the purity of the six sense faculties and spoke the *Wondrous Dharma Lotus Sutra*. Although he had not realized the fruition of sagehood, he gained these benefits with his physical body born of his parents.

Sutra:

At that time the arrogant Bhikshus, Bhikshunis, Upasakas, and Upasikas among the fourfold assembly who despised and called him Never-Slighting, saw that he had attained great spiritual power, the power of eloquence of delight in speech, and the power of great wholesome stillness. Upon hearing his teaching, all of them then believed and followed him.

Commentary:

At that time the arrogant Bhikshus, Bhikshunis, Upasakas, and Upasikas among the fourfold assembly who despised and called him Never-Slighting. These people had beaten and abused Bodhisattva Never-Slighting when he bowed to them. They had slighted and despised him, saying that he was the most stupid monk. These people in the fourfold assembly called him “Never-Slighting.”

They saw that he had attained great spiritual power, the power of eloquence of delight in speech, and the power of great wholesome stillness. These people saw that Bodhisattva Never-Slighting had indeed attained great spiritual power. He was able to memorize many verses of the *Lotus Sutra* and explain them to others; and he accomplished the power of great eloquence of delight in speaking the Dharma and the power of great wholesome stillness. When people abused him, he did not get angry; when they beat him, he did not give rise to hatred. He not only displayed no anger on the outside but he also did not harbor any anger within. This is true wholesomeness. Having attained “stillness” meant that he was able to be patient even when circumstances were difficult to endure—this was his wisdom. The state of having both patience and *prajna* (wisdom) is called “the power of great wholesome stillness.”

Upon hearing his teaching, all of them then believed and followed him. After they heard the Bodhisattva Bhikshu Never-Slighting speak the *Dharma Flower Sutra*, they all believed and complied, and were subdued; they no longer abused or beat him. Instead, they followed this Bodhisattva wherever he went. Wherever he went to speak the Dharma, they would follow him to listen to the Dharma.

To be continued