

論語淺釋 (續)

The Analects of Confucius

(continued)

宣化上人講

楊維光、劉年聰 英譯

Lectures by the Venerable Master Hua

English translation by Yong Wei Kwong and Liew Yen Chong



【里仁第四】

【恒持法師講解】

一個辦法就是天天要抓緊時間，或者吃完飯，或者沒有睡覺之前，就自己想一想每天所行所作的，並且最要緊的，是自己所想的是什麼？那如果發覺到裏邊有妒忌的行為，或者妒忌的思想，那應該詳細看這個情形，而想一個辦法對治那個問題。天天要下功夫，在我的經驗就是，到現在還不容易，就是要天天作，天天很注意自己的缺點，把它慢慢地彌補過來。

【上人講解】

「子曰」，「見賢思齊焉」：這一段「論語」，就是教我們怎麼樣能「見賢

Chapter 4: Living in a Benevolent Neighborhood

【Dharma Master Heng Chih's Explanation】

One method is to set some time every day, whether it is after meals or before bedtime, to reflect on our actions and deeds. What's more, the most important thing is to reflect on our own thoughts. If we discover any jealous acts or jealous thoughts, then we should analyze the situation and think of a way to address the problem. We must make an effort to do this daily. In my experience, it has not been easy even up till now. I just have to keep on doing it every day, paying attention to my shortcomings and gradually compensating for them.

【Venerable Master's Commentary】

The Master said, "On meeting a virtuous person, think about how you can emulate him. This passage of the *Analects* teaches us that "when we see virtuous people, we should think of how we can be equal to them; but when we come across people who are not virtuous, we should reflect on our own conduct". In this world, there are people who are good and virtuous or, in other words, able and wise. They stand out from the crowd and are remarkable in

思齊，見不賢自省」。這個世界上，有的人就賢而有德的，是又有才幹，又有智慧；每一樣都出乎其類，拔乎其萃。可是人不是個個都是這樣，好的多，不好的就少；出乎其類的人就少，不是出乎其類的人就多。那麼這樣子，這個世界就一天不如一天，就壞了！

孔子當時見著這種情形，就教人知道怎麼樣做人；說你見著那好的人，你應該向他看齊，向他學習。不應該見著人家才能超過自己，就存一種妒忌，或者毒害的心，這是不應該有的。因為你有這種思想，這就是違背天地的和氣，違背天地的生理。這個出乎其類，拔乎其萃的人，他生來又有才華，又有智慧，品行又正確；不是那樣子投機取巧，搞名搞利，或者在那兒為自己自私自利來去打算。好像那個秦檜比誰都聰明，曹操也比誰都聰明；可是他們是奸雄，是害世界的。

所以老子說：「智慧出，有大偽。」越有智慧的人，你越要對他小心。小心，是要學他的長處，不要學他那害人的地方，不要學他那個妒忌障礙。好像「無才不足以計奸」，「智慧出有大偽」，有的人有智慧，因為他的思想超過一切的人，他就要用一種欺騙的手段，去騙人家那無知無識的人，所以很多的問題都在這個地方發生的。

孔子就恐怕有這個問題發生，所以教人見賢要思齊，要向他看齊，向他學習；應該效倣，不應該生一種的壞的思想。那麼你還要知道他是真賢，是不真賢？有的冒充賢而有德的人，做假面具，一天到晚掛個假面具，在那兒欺騙其他的人；這可多得很，到處都是這樣的。他們不懂得什麼，他不會欺騙人的；一懂得，怎麼樣？他學會騙人的手段了！這是要小心的。

小心，你就知道這樣人怎麼樣？是不是你和他鬥一鬥？也不需要鬥，就不要學這類的偽善，總披著一個偽裝，來盡做一些個偽君子。不要這樣，不要被這一類的人所迷了。這一類的人，他都是什麼樣呢？最容易看的，你就看他盡說什麼？說得很甜很動聽的，令你相信別人的都相信了；簡直地，他說得頭頭是道，實際上是在騙人，就是在那兒擺下一個陷阱給你上呢！這要懂得。

☯待續

all respects. Unfortunately, not everyone is of such caliber, otherwise the good will outnumber the bad. Outstanding individuals are in the minority whereas mediocre people form the majority. As a result, the world has deteriorated day by day and is in a rotten state!

During his time, Confucius observed the terrible state of affairs in society and so he set about teaching people how to conduct themselves as proper human beings. What he is saying here is that if you come across a good person, you should strive to be his equal by learning from him. You should not harbor any jealousy or ill-will towards those who are more talented than you otherwise you will be going against the harmonious energy, or physiology, of heaven and earth. Outstanding individuals are naturally gifted and wise and have impeccable conduct. They are not opportunists who dabble in fame and gain or plot and plan for their own benefit. For example, both Qin Kuai and Cao Cao were far more intelligent than anyone else but they were unscrupulous men of power who brought harm to the world.

For this reason, Laozi said, "When intelligence appears, there is great pretense." The more intelligent a person, the more you should be wary of him. Being wary is to learn his good points but not his harmful qualities such as jealousy and obstruction of others. As the saying goes: "One who lacks talent is incapable of plotting anything wicked." Some individuals are intellectual giants and, being smarter than everybody, they know how to use all sorts of tricks to deceive the ignorant. Therefore, this is the cause of many problems.

As Confucius was concerned that such problems might arise, he taught people that when they came across virtuous individuals, they should think of emulating them and learning from them. They should model themselves on these exemplars and not give rise to wicked thoughts. Now, you should first find out whether such a person is genuinely virtuous or not. There are some people who put on a false front all the time and pretend to be virtuous so that they can go around deceiving others. There have been many cases like this everywhere. A person who knows nothing is unable to deceive others, but once he knows something, he will learn the tricks to cheat people! Be on your guard.

By being cautious, you will know the true colors of such people. What do you do then? Should you fight it out with them? That is not necessary. Just don't learn this kind of fake goodness where you have to put on a false front all the time and do all sorts of hypocritical things. Don't be like this, and don't be misled by such people. How do you spot them? The easiest way is to observe the way they talk. With sweet, moving speeches, they can even convince those of you who are usually skeptical. They sound simply impressive but they are taking you for a ride and laying a trap for you! Be aware of what is going on.

☯To be continued