## The Dharma Flower Sutra with Commentary

Chapter Twenty: Never slighting bodhisattva

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Revised version Translated by the International Translation Institute Commentary by the Venerable Master Hua

不輕菩薩	往到其所
而語之言	我不輕汝
汝等行道	皆當作佛
諸人聞已	輕毀罵詈
不輕菩薩	能忍受之

「不輕菩薩,往到其 所,而語之言」:在這時 候,常不輕菩薩想要去度 這一班增上慢的比丘,就 到計著於法的這四眾弟子 那個地方去,對這增上慢 的四眾就說了,「我不輕 次,汝等行道,皆當作 佛」:我絕對不敢輕看 你!因為你們現在所行的 是菩薩所行之道,將來你 們都應該作佛的。

「諸人聞已,輕毀罵 罟」:計著於法的這些四 眾弟子聽完這話,對這位 常不輕菩薩,就譭謗他、 **罵他。「不輕菩薩,能忍** 受之」:這位常不輕菩薩 給人叩頭頂禮、給人授 記,還被人家打、罵、拳 打腳踢,甚至於用木棍、 瓦石,或者用種種的東西 來打他。這時候,這位常 不輕菩薩一點也不生瞋恨 心,一點也不發脾氣;人 罵他、打他、 惱他, 怎麼 樣對他有不好的行為,他 也能忍耐。

Sutra: Bodhisattva Never Slighting Would approach them And say: "I will not slight you, For you are practicing the Way And shall all become Buddhas." Hearing that, they slighted, Slandered and abused him. Bodhisattva Never Slighting Was able to endure it.

## Commentary:

Bodhisattva Never Slighting / Would approach them / And say: At that time, wishing to take those arrogant Bhikshus across, Bodhisattva Never Slighting went to the arrogant fourfold assembly who were attached to the Dharma, and said to them, "I will not slight you / For you are practicing the Way / And shall all become Buddhas." I absolutely do not dare to slight you! Because what you are practicing is the Bodhisattva Path, and in the future you shall all become Buddhas.

Hearing that, they slighted / Slandered and abused him. / Bodhisattva Never Slighting / Was able to endure it. The fourfold assembly, who were attached to the Dharma, slandered and scolded him after hearing his words. However, despite the fact that Bodhisattva Never Slighting was yelled at, and beaten with punches and kicks, with sticks, tiles and stones, and all kinds of tools, he bowed to those people and bestowed predictions upon them. At that time, Bodhisattva Never Slighting neither became angry nor lost his temper in the slightest. No matter how badly they treated, scolded, or beat or provoked him, he was able to endure it.

Proper
Dharma
SEAL
正法印

其罪畢已	臨命終時
得聞此經	六根清淨
神通力故	增益壽命
復為諸人	廣說是經
諸著法衆	皆蒙菩薩
教化成就	令住佛道
不輕命終	値無數佛
說是經故	得無量福
漸具功德	疾成佛道
不輕菩薩	能忍受之

「其罪畢已」:這位常不輕菩薩 給人叩頭,為什麼還會有罪呢?不 是他給人叩頭才會有罪,是他前生 的罪業還沒有了。在《金剛經》上 說:「若善男子、善女人,受持讀 誦此經,若為人輕賤;是人先世罪 業應墮惡道,以今世人輕賤故,先 世罪業則為消滅,當得阿耨多羅三 藐三菩提。」常不輕菩薩行這種不 輕的菩薩道,被人打、被人罵、被 人輕賤;因為被人輕賤,所以他 前生輕賤人的罪業就消滅、沒有 了!。

「臨命終時,得聞此經」:所 以,他就在壽命將要終的時候,聽 見這一部《妙法蓮華經》這種種不 可思議的道理。「六根清淨,神通 力故,增益壽命」:這個時候,他 得到六根清淨、六根互用這種的力 量。怎麼會有六根互用?因為他清 淨了;清淨,就會六根互用。他有 大神通、大智慧、大雄大力的緣 故,所以他的壽命又增加了,不但 沒有死,而且還增加很多。

「復為諸人,廣說是經」:這位 常不輕菩薩,他又為這所有的人, 廣宣、演說、講解這一部《妙法蓮 華經》。

## Sutra: When he had paid off his offenses, At the end of his life, He got to hear this Sutra, And his six sense faculties became pure. By virtue of his spiritual powers, His life span was increased, And for the sake of others, He extensively spoke this Sutra. Those multitudes who were attached to the Dharma All received this Bodhisattva's Teaching and successfully Were led to abide in the Buddha Way. When Never Slighting's life ended, He met with countless Buddhas, And because he explained this Sutra, He attained limitless blessings. Gradually perfecting his merit and virtue, He quickly realized the Buddha Way.

## Commentary:

When he had paid off his offenses, why did Bodhisattva Never Slighting still have offenses when he bowed to others? They weren't offenses created by his bowing, but they were his offenses committed in previous lives that had not yet been paid. The *Vajra Sutra* says, "If a good man or good woman receives, holds, reads, and recites this Sutra and if people ridicule him, that person has karmic offenses from previous lives which destine him for the evil paths. In his present life, other people ridicule him, so his previous karmic offenses are destroyed, and he will attain Anuttarasamyaksambodhi." While practicing the Bodhisattva Way of never slighting people, Bodhisattva Never Slighting was beaten, insulted and disparaged by others; and because of that, his offenses of ridiculing others in his previous lives were completely eliminated.

At the end of his life / He got to hear this Sutra; therefore, at the end of his life, he was able to hear the *Wondrous Dharma Lotus Sutra* and its inconceivable principles. And his six sense faculties became pure. / By virtue of his spiritual powers, / His lifespan was increased. At that time, his six sense faculties became pure and he attained the power of his six sense faculties functioning interchangeably. How could that happen? It was because he became pure. Being pure, his six sense faculties could function interchangeably. Moreover, his lifespan increased because of his great spiritual powers, great wisdom, and great courage. Not only did he not die, but also his lifespan was greatly prolonged.

And for the sake of others, / He extensively spoke this Sutra. This Bodhisattva Never Slighting widely proclaimed, lectured and explained this *Wondrous Dharma Lotus Sutra* for the benefit of everyone.