妙法蓮華經淺釋

The Dharma Flower Sutra with Commentary

【常不輕菩薩品第二十】

Chapter Twenty: Never Slighting Bodhisattva

修訂版 Revised version

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宣化上人講解 國際譯經學院記錄翻譯

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

在下個禮拜天,正是觀音菩薩出家的一個紀 念日,所以在這一天,我們預備給所有報名想 要皈依的人,來舉行皈依的儀式。已經報名的 人,應該預備在那一天皈依;沒有報名皈依的 人,若想要皈依,也趕快報名。因為在觀音菩 薩出家這一個紀念日來皈依,第一,和觀音菩 薩結法緣;第二,這個日子也很容易記得。你 們無論哪一個人,不要把皈依那一天忘了;皈 依那一天,那就是你們活著的一個生日,一個 「睜著眼睛投胎」的生日。以前你父母給你這 個身體,你沒有睜開眼睛,也不知道這父親、 母親好不好,就投胎了;現在這叫「睜眼投 胎」——投法門的胎,找一個出世的法門。所 以這一點,你們各位應該記得!

有的人說是:「我想皈依,等一等!」既然 想皈依,就不必等;你若等,將來或者就錯過 機會,就沒有機會皈依了。所以想要皈依,就 早一點,不要等;你等,不知道這個世界有什 麼問題會發生。我不是希望大家都死,但是不 知道哪一天,那個原子彈、氫氣彈不知怎麼樣 就爆炸了,這人類就沒有了。所以若早一天皈 依,或者原子彈響的時候,無形中菩薩就保護 著你,就不會有什麼問題。說:「那我趕快皈 依了!」你趕快皈依?那我還要審查一下可以 或者不可以! Next Sunday is a day to celebrate Guanyin Bodhisattva's leaving home. Therefore we plan to hold a Ceremony for Taking Refuge on that day for all those who wish to take refuge. All those who have signed up should prepare for that day. Those who have not signed up and wish to take refuge should sign up quickly. To take refuge on Guanyin Bodhisattva's leaving home day is to tie Dharma affinity with Guanyin Bodhisattva and it is very easy to remember that date. No matter who you are, you should not forget the date when you take refuge. The day you took refuge is the day you are born again. It is a birthday while you are "alive;" a birthday in which you enter a womb with your eyes wide open. Previously when your parents gave you this body, your eyes were not open when you were in your mother's womb and you did not know if your father or mother was good. Now taking refuge is called "entering a womb with eyes wide open." You are entering the womb of the Dharma door, looking for a way to transcend the mundane world. Everyone should all remember this point!

Some people say, "I would like to take refuge, but I will wait a little." Do not wait any longer if you would like to take refuge. If you wait, you might miss the opportunity to take refuge and would no longer have the opportunity ever again. If you truly want to take refuge, then do it sooner than later. If you wait, you don't know what will happen to the world. I don't want everyone to die; yet should an atomic or a hydrogen bomb explode, this could be the end of mankind. If you take refuge earlier and if the atomic bomb explodes, imperceptibly, the Bodhisattvas will protect you so that you won't have any problems. You say, "Then I want to take refuge as soon as possible." You want to take refuge as soon as possible? I will still need to review the application and evaluate if it is acceptable.



我於前世	勸是諸人
聽受斯經	第一之法
開示教人	令住涅槃
世世受持	如是經典
億億萬劫	至不可議
時乃得聞	是法華經
億億萬劫	至不可議
諸佛世尊	時說是經
是故行者	於佛滅後
聞如是經	勿生疑惑
應當一心	廣說此經
世世値佛	疾成佛道

「我於前世, 勸是諸人」: 我在前生的時候, 勸說這些個人, 令他們發菩提心、修行菩薩道。「聽受斯經, 第一之法」: 我生生世世都講這部《法華經》, 而他們都已經聽過。這《法華經》就是第一的、最妙的佛法。「開示教人, 令住涅槃」: 我又開示、教化這一切的人, 令他們得到涅槃的快樂, 得到「常樂我淨」這種的妙果。「世世受持, 如是經典」: 我又教化這一切的眾生, 令他們生生世世受持這一部《法華經》。我自己也是生生世世, 受持這一部《妙法華蓮經》。

「億億萬劫,至不可議」:在這個沒有數 量那麼多的億億萬劫,乃至於到不可思議那 麼多、那麼長的時間,「時乃得聞,是法華經」:《 法華經》不是很容易聽見的,若在無量阿僧祇劫 的時間,也不一定遇著能聽這《法華經》。這 《法華經》,是很難遭遇的。「億億萬劫,至 不可議,諸佛世尊,時說是經」:乃至於在億 億萬那麼多的劫,及不可思議那麼長的阿僧祇 劫,這十方諸佛的世尊哪!都是常常說這一部 《法華經》。

「是故行者,於佛滅後」:就因為這個原因,所以你們這一些修行菩薩道的人,在我將來滅度之後,「聞如是經,勿生疑惑」:你們若聽聞這一部不可思議的《妙法蓮華經》,千萬不要生出一種懷疑而不相信的心,你不要生疑惑心。「應當一心,廣說此經」:你們都應當專一其心,廣為一切眾人說這一部《妙法蓮華經》。各位聽完了這《妙法蓮華經》,到處都給人講這《妙法蓮華經》。「世世值佛,疾成佛道」:你們生生世世都可以遇到佛,很快的就可以成就諸佛之道了! 5076續

Sutra:

In my previous lives, / I exhorted these people To hear and accept this Sutra, / The foremost Dharma. I instructed and taught them, / And led them to abide in Nirvana, And in life after life, to accept and uphold, / A Sutra such as this. For quadrillion eons, / Till time inconceivable, Would one occasionally get to hear, / The *Dharma Flower Sutra*. For quadrillion eons, / Till time inconceivable, Buddhas, World Honored Ones, / Constantly speak this Sutra. Therefore, all of you practitioners, / After the Buddha's passing, On hearing this Sutra, / Should not give rise to doubts, Instead you should single-mindedly, / Speak this Sutra widely, In life after life you will meet Buddhas, And quickly realize the Buddha Way.

Commentary:

In my previous lives, I exhorted these people, to hear and accept this Sutra, the foremost Dharma. I advised these people in my previous lives, enabling them to bring forth the Bodhi resolve and cultivate the Bodhisattva Path. I have been lecturing on this *Dharma Flower Sutra* in life after life, and people have heard it. The *Dharma Flower Sutra* is the foremost and most wondrous of all Buddhadharma. I instructed and taught them, and led them to abide in Nirvana, and in life after life, to accept and uphold, a Sutra such as this. I also instructed and taught all these people so that they attained the bliss of Nirvana, the wondrous fruit of Permanence, Bliss, True Self, and Purity. I also taught all these living beings, so that they could accept and uphold this Sutra in life after life. I myself also have accepted and upheld it in life after life.

For quadrillion eons, till time inconceivable, would one occasionally get to hear, the *Dharma Flower Sutra*. It is not easy to encounter and hear the *Dharma Flower Sutra*. For immeasurable *asamkhyeya kalpas*, one may not have the opportunity to hear it. For quadrillion eons, till time inconceivable, Buddhas, World Honored Ones, constantly speak this Sutra. Buddhas of the ten directions constantly speak this Sutra for quadrillions and up to inconceivable *asamkhyeya* eons.

Therefore, all of you practitioners, after the Buddha's passing, on hearing this Sutra, should not give rise to doubts. Because of this, all of you who are cultivating the Bodhisattva Path, upon hearing this inconceivable *Wondrous Dharma Flower Sutra* after I enter Nirvana, please do not give rise to doubts and disbelief; do not doubt it. **Instead you should** single-mindedly speak this Sutra widely. You should wholeheartedly and single-mindedly speak this Sutra for everybody widely. After you have heard this Sutra, every one of you should lecture on it for others everywhere. **In life after life you will meet Buddhas, and quickly realize the Buddha** Way. Then you will quickly accomplish the Way of all Buddhas.

soTo be continued