地藏菩薩本願經淺釋

The Sutra of the Past Vows of Earth Store Bodhisattva with Commentary

【忉利天宫神通品第一】

Chapter One: Spiritual Penetrations in the Palace of the Trayastrimsha Heaven

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Commentary by the Venerable Master Hua Translated by the International Translation Institute Revised by Bhikshuni Heng Chih

時婆羅門女,垂泣良久,瞻戀如來,忽聞空 中聲曰:泣者聖女,勿至悲哀,我今示汝母之 去處。

婆羅門女做這樣的一個想法:佛是最有智慧的一個大覺者,可惜現在佛已經入涅槃了; 如果佛在世的時候,我母親死了,我若問佛, 他一定知道我母親生到什麼地方!「時婆羅門 女」:當這個時候婆羅門女「垂泣良久」:垂 是低著頭,泣是哭,良久不是很久的時候,只 是一個時候,這是沒有一定的時候,也就是她 低著頭哭的那個時候。「瞻戀如來」:瞻是看 看佛的相貌。戀,是戀戀不捨的,也就是捨不 得離開。好像本來並沒有繩子,但是現在似乎 有一條繩栓上了,但實際上沒有,這叫戀。瞻 戀如來,就是不願意離開覺華定自在王如來的 像。

「忽聞空中聲曰」: 在這時候,也正是婆 羅門女身心專注,沒有其他妄想的時候,只是 一個瞻戀佛的心,一個想念佛性的心,所以在 這時候,她可以說是心裡清淨。「忽聞空中聲 曰」:這時虛空裡頭有了聲音,有什麼聲呢?「泣 者聖女」:說你這個哭泣的聖女。雖然她的母親有 罪,但是她自己有善根,所以才叫聖女。「勿至 悲哀」:妳不要哭得太厲害!妳不要悲哀得太 厲害了!「我今示汝母之去處」:我現在告訴

Sutra:

The Brahman woman lowered her head, and wept for a while as she gazed longingly upon the Thus Come One. Suddenly, a voice in the air said, "O weeping worthy woman, do not be so sorrowful. I shall now show you where your mother has gone."

Commentary:

The Brahman women thought, "The Buddha is the wisest of sages and a great enlightened being, unfortunately, the Buddha has already entered nirvana. If the Buddha had been in the world when my mother passed away, I could have asked the Buddha where she was reborn. He would have definitely known." The Brahman woman lowered her head and wept for a while. It wasn't necessarily a long time. It was just for a while, a certain undefined period of time. She wept as she gazed longingly upon the Thus Come One. She looked at the Buddha with longing and did not want to leave him. It was as if her longing bound her there even though there was no actual cord binding her. She did not want to leave the image of Thus Come One Enlightenment-Flower Samadhi Self-Mastery King.

Suddenly a voice in the air spoke. This occurred at a time when the Brahman woman was concentrated in body and mind, without any false thoughts, other than a longing for the Buddha while pondering the Buddha nature. Thus, her mind could be said to have been pure at this time. Suddenly there was a voice in the air. What did it say? "O weeping worthy woman." It said, "You who are crying, although your mother committed offenses, have



妳,妳的母親到什麼地方去了,妳不要哭 了。

婆羅門女,合掌向空,而白空曰:是何 神德,寬我憂慮?我自失母以來,晝夜憶 戀,無處可問,知母生界。

「婆羅門女」:這個婆羅門女,「合 掌向空」:合起掌來,對著虛空。「而白 空曰」:她也對著虛空中說起話來。「是 何神德寬我憂慮」:這是那一位菩薩?那 一位神仙?這麼好心啊!這麼慈悲的來寬 我憂慮,來安慰我,令我沒有悲哀和憂慮 成憂慮,來安慰我,令我沒有悲哀和憂慮 足以來」:我自從母親死去之後。也就是 我失掉母親以後,「晝夜憶戀」:白天也 想我母親,晚間也想我母親。「無處可 聞」:為什麼我想念母親呢?因為我的這 個身體是母親所生的,既是生我的人,我 就應該孝順她;可是我沒有盡到孝順,母 親就死了,所以我特別悲痛。

所謂「樹欲靜而風不止,子欲養而親 不在。」什麼叫樹欲靜而風不止呢?這 樹想要清靜一個時候,它不想搖動,但是 風來吹它,吹得它搖來搖去的,這叫樹欲 靜而風不止。子欲養而親不在,我正想要 奉養我的母親,發一

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roots of goodness, and therefore are a worthy woman. Do not be so sorrowful. Do not cry so hard! Do not be so sad! I shall now show you where your mother has gone. Let me tell you where your mother went. Do not cry."

Sutra:

The Brahman woman placed her palms together as she addressed space, saying, "Which ethereal virtuous one is comforting me in my grief? Ever since the day I lost my mother, I have held her in memory day and night, but there is nowhere I can go to ask about the realm of her rebirth."

Commentary:

"The Brahman woman placed her palms together and faced the sky as she addressed space, saying, "Which ethereal virtuous one is comforting me in my grief? Which Bodhisattva are you? Which spiritual ascetic are you? You are so kind! Your compassionate concern about my sadness comforts me. Who takes my worries away? You are so virtuous. Your virtue is so compassionate. Ever since the day I lost my mother, from the moment she died, I have held her in memory day and night. I think about my mother day and night. But there is nowhere I can go to ask about her. Why am I concerned about my mother? My mother gave me this body, so of course I am filial to her. However, my mother passed away before I could complete my filial obligations. That is why I am especially sad.

It's said, "The trees wish to be still, but the wind does not stop.

The children wish to be filial, but their parents are gone." The trees want to stop swinging for a while, but wind blows them back and forth. The trees wish to be still, but the wind does not stop. The children wish to be filial, but their parent are gone. My parents departed just when I wanted to offer care to my mother, to be filial, and to repay the kindness of my parents. It is said, "Father! Mother! Your kindness is so extremely great, it is higher than the heavens." The compassion of our parents is higher than the heavens and thicker than earth. "I am very ashamed and sad that I was not filial to my mother. I do not have a place to ask about the realm of her rebirth." I do not know whether my mother went to the heavens or fell into the hells.

£7To be continued

