

# 妙法蓮華經淺釋

## The Dharma Flower Sutra with Commentary

### 【藥王菩薩本事品第二十三】

CHAPTER TWENTY-THREE:

THE FORMER DEEDS OF MEDICINE KING BODHISATTVA

修訂版 Revised version

宣化上人講解

國際譯經學院記錄翻譯

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爾時，一切衆生喜見菩薩見佛滅度，悲感懊惱，戀慕於佛，即以海此岸栴檀爲積，供養佛身，而以燒之。火滅已後，收取舍利，作八萬四千寶瓶，以起八萬四千塔，高三世界，表刹莊嚴，垂諸幡蓋，懸衆寶鈴。

「爾時，一切衆生喜見菩薩見佛滅度」：在這個時候，一切眾生喜見菩薩，他親自看見日月淨明德佛入涅槃，「悲感懊惱，戀慕於佛」：這一位菩薩也哭起來了，也就是捨不得佛入涅槃；好像阿難似的，只知道哭了，這個菩薩也哭起來了。他就像：「我怎麼不請佛住世呢？我若請佛住世，或者佛就不入涅槃了！」就這麼懊惱，認為自己不會做事。懊是懊悔，惱是煩惱。他戀慕於佛，捨不得佛入涅槃。戀，就是捨不得。

「即以海此岸栴檀爲積，供養佛身，而以燒之」：積，就是積聚到一起。佛入涅槃之後，用這種最貴重的海此岸栴檀；這種栴檀香六銖的價值，就值整個娑婆世界，這種香是最貴重的。把這種栴檀積聚

### Sūtra:

Seeing the Buddha pass into stillness, Bodhisattva All Beings Delight in Seeing was sorely grieved and distressed, longing for the Buddha. Then, as an offering to the Buddha, he built a pyre of this-shore-sandalwood, which he lit to cremate the body. When the fire had gone out, he collected the śarīra and distributed them in eighty-four thousand jeweled urns. Eighty-four thousand stūpas, each three worlds in height, were built to house them. Splendid were their facades, with pennants and canopies hanging down and arrays of jeweled bells suspended all around.

### Commentary:

Seeing the Buddha pass into stillness, Bodhisattva All Beings Delight in Seeing was sorely grieved and distressed, longing for the Buddha. Having witnessed the Buddha enter nirvana, this Bodhisattva wept. He could not bear to see the Buddha enter nirvana. He was like Ānanda who did nothing but cry when Śākyamuni Buddha entered nirvana. This Bodhisattva, filled with regret, lamented, “Why didn’t I ask the Buddha to remain in the world? If I had asked him to, he might not have entered nirvana!” He was struck with grief and thought himself incompetent. He

到一起，用這種香來供養佛身，然後以這種香來作為好像柴似的，拿它來焚燒佛的身。

「火滅已後，收取舍利，作八萬四千寶瓶」：將日月淨明德佛的身焚化之後，收取佛的舍利，分開盛在八萬四千個寶瓶之內，有的一個瓶裡有很多粒舍利。「以起八萬四千塔」：又造八萬四千座寶塔，供養寶瓶中的舍利。釋迦牟尼佛入滅之後，那時候阿育王也在這世界上，造了八萬四千個舍利塔。

「高三世界」：這個塔有三個世界那麼高。「表刹莊嚴，垂諸幡蓋，懸衆寶鈴」：在每一座寶塔前邊，有兩枝旗杆，非常的莊嚴；表，是外表。又垂掛上很多幡、很多寶蓋，又懸掛起很多用金子或者銀子所造的寶鈴。

爾時，一切衆生喜見菩薩復自念言：我雖作是供養，心猶未足，我今當更供養舍利。便語諸菩薩、大弟子，及天龍夜叉等一切大眾：汝等當一心念，我今供養日月淨明德佛舍利。作是語已，即於八萬四千塔前，然百福莊嚴臂，七萬二千歲，而以供養。

「爾時，一切衆生喜見菩薩復自念言」：在這時候，這位一切眾生喜見菩薩，又這樣想了；想什麼？「我雖作是供養，心猶未足，我今當更供養舍利」：我在前生雖然把我身體燒了來供佛，作這種的供養，但是我心裡覺得，還沒有盡上我的真心和誠心來供養佛，現在應當再供養日月淨明德佛的舍利。

你看！我們布施出一點錢，就覺得這很有功德了；這一位菩薩，他供養自己這個身體，把身體都燒了，他也沒有說：「啊，我這夠了！我供養已經最第一了！」本來十方諸佛都讚他說是第一之施，他是真精進，是真法供養。但是他自己還覺得不夠。

just could not let the Buddha go!

Then, as an offering to the Buddha, he built a pyre of this-shore-sandalwood, which he lit to cremate the body. This-shore-sandalwood is a priceless incense, six *karṣas* of which are as valuable as the entire *Sahā* world. He collected the sandalwood and used it as firewood to burn the Buddha's body.

When the fire had gone out, he collected the *śārīra* of Buddha Pure Bright Virtue Resembling the Sun and Moon, and distributed them in eighty-four thousand jeweled urns, some of which contained many *śārīra*. Eighty-four thousand *stūpas*, each three worlds in height, were built to house them. Similarly, when Śākyamuni Buddha entered nirvana, King Aśoka had eighty-four thousand *stūpas* built to house his *śārīra*. The magnificent *stūpas* were as tall as three worlds. Two flagpoles stood in front of each *stūpa*, and many pennants and precious canopies hung down. Multitudes of jeweled bells made of gold or silver were hung all around.

#### *Sūtra:*

Bodhisattva All Beings Delight in Seeing then further reflected, "Although I have made this offering, my heart is not yet satisfied. I shall now make further offerings to the *śārīra*." He then said to all the Bodhisattvas, great disciples, gods, dragons, *yakṣas*, and other beings in the great assembly, "Recite single-mindedly, for I am now going to make offerings to the *śārīra* of Buddha Pure Bright Virtue Resembling the Sun and Moon." Having said that in front of the eighty-four thousand *stūpas*, he burned his magnificent arms, the results of his myriad merits, as an offering for seventy-two thousand years.

#### *Commentary:*

Bodhisattva All Beings Delight in Seeing then further reflected, "Although I have made this offering, my heart is not yet satisfied." Although I burned my body as an offering to the Buddha in my last life, I don't feel I have fully demonstrated my sincerity in making sufficient offerings to the Buddha."

We give away a little money and feel that we have created great merit. This Bodhisattva offered his entire body by burning it and still didn't say, "That's enough. I've done my bit. I am number one." The Buddhas of the ten directions had already praised him for making this ultimate gift, saying, "This is true vigor. This is a true Dharma offering," but he still felt it wasn't enough.