



正法印
PROPER DHARMA SEAL

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

Commentary by the Venerable Master Hua

Translated by the International Translation Institute



你要知道，說的話多，不如念佛多的好。所謂「少說一句話，多念一聲佛；念得念頭死，許汝法身活。」你這個妄念的念頭死了，用功才能成就的。我們大家都是用功修行的人，不要那麼樣子不修口。有的人對我講，他不願意到講堂來，就因為大家亂講話，他不能用功。所以這一點，我們各人都要注意，大家持守這種的規律！

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宿王華！此經能救一切衆生者，此經能令一切衆生離諸苦惱，此經能大饒益一切衆生，充滿其願。如清涼池，能滿一切諸渴乏者；如寒者得火，如裸者得衣，如商人得主，如子得母，如渡得船，如病得醫，如闇得燈，如貧得寶，如民得王，如賈客得海，如炬除闇；此法華經亦復如是，能令衆生離一切苦、一切病痛，能解一切生死之縛。

You should know that talking is not as good as reciting the Buddha's name. "Talk less and recite the Buddha's name more." If you recite until your false thoughts die, then your Dharma-body will come to life. Only then can you successfully apply yourself to practice. As diligent cultivators, we shouldn't mindlessly chatter. I say this because some people are reluctant to come to the lecture hall. Why? They cannot apply effort because of the constant chatter. All of you should pay attention to this and abide by the rules.

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Sūtra:

Constellation King Flower, this sūtra can save all living beings; this sūtra can lead all living beings to leave suffering and distress behind; and this sūtra can greatly benefit all living beings and fulfill their wishes. Just as thirsty beings can quench their thirst at a cool and refreshing pool, as a cold person is warmed by a fire, as a naked person finds clothing, as a merchant finds customers, as a child finds their mother, as a passenger finds a boat, as a sick person finds a doctor, as one in a dark place finds a lamp, as a poor person finds treasure, as subjects find a king, as a trader finds the sea, and as a torch dispels darkness, the *Dharma Flower Sūtra*, in the same way, enables living beings to leave behind all suffering, sickness, and pain; it can release them from all the bonds of birth and death.

「宿王華」：釋迦牟尼佛又叫一聲，宿王華菩薩！「此經能救一切眾生者」：這一部《妙法蓮華經》的用途是很廣大的，能令一切眾生在最危險、最困難的境界裡邊，得以救度。

「此經能令一切眾生離諸苦惱」：這一部《妙法蓮華經》，眾生若明白，一切的苦惱都沒有了，都離苦得樂。「此經能大饒益一切眾生，充滿其願」：這一部《妙法蓮華經》，對眾生的益處太多了，說也說不完。眾生有什麼願，就可以滿什麼願。你誦持《妙法蓮華經》，你求什麼，都可以滿願的。以下這有十二種的譬喻。

「如清涼池，能滿一切諸渴乏者」：《妙法蓮華經》的功用，好像那個最清淨、最涼爽的水池子一樣，能解除一切渴。這個清涼池，你如果渴了，就可以把你的渴除去了。

「如寒者得火」：好像寒冷的時候，你能得到火了。我們不明白佛法，就等於寒冷一樣；你明白佛法了，就得到火了。

「如裸者得衣」：又有一個譬喻，譬喻什麼呢？譬喻人沒有衣服穿，赤身裸體——就是沒有衣服穿。沒有讀《法華經》以前，就好像赤身裸體一樣；你現在學《法華經》、明白《法華經》，就好像得到衣服一樣。

「如商人得主」：又好像做買賣、做生意的商人，得到顧客了，就是得到來買東西的客人。你這兒做生意，要有人來買東西，你這生意才能賺錢；若沒有人來買你所賣的物品，你就沒有生意做了！

「如子得母」：又有一個譬喻，好像小孩子失去了母親，現在要各處找——哦，把母親找著了！你讀誦《法華經》也是這樣子，現在就得到你這法身的母親了。

「如渡得船」：又有一個比喻，比喻什麼呢？你想要過海，過海必須要有船；若沒有船，你想要過海也過不了。那麼現在就得到船了，這《法華經》就是一艘大船。

「如病得醫」：有病的人，若沒有醫生給醫治，這個病就不會好的。要是有病的人遇著好的醫生，這個病就會好了。所以我們就像有病的人，這《法華經》就是一個大醫生，可以救度我們疾病的痛苦。

☞待續

Commentary:

This passage of sūtra text contains twelve analogies. Śākyamuni Buddha continues, “**Constellation King Flower, this sūtra can save all living beings.**” The *Wonderful Dharma Lotus Sūtra* has a great function. What is that function? It can “save all living beings.” **This Wonderful Dharma Lotus Sūtra can lead all living beings to leave suffering and distress behind.** Once living beings understand this *Wonderful Dharma Lotus Sūtra*, they will leave behind all misery and attain bliss. **And this sūtra can greatly benefit all living beings and fulfill their wishes.** The benefits this *Wonderful Dharma Lotus Sūtra* brings to living beings are too numerous to be expressed in words. Whatever wishes living beings have, they can fulfill them by upholding this *Wonderful Dharma Lotus Sūtra*.

Just as thirsty beings can quench their thirst at a cool and refreshing pool. If you are thirsty, you can drink from this clear pool and satisfy your thirst. **As a cold person is warmed by a fire.** Not understanding the Buddhadharma is like being cold. Understanding the Buddhadharma is like being warmed by a fire.

As a naked person finds clothing. Here is another analogy, of a naked person finding clothes. Before you studied the *Dharma Flower Sūtra*, it was as if you were naked. Now that you have studied and understood the *Dharma Flower Sūtra*, you feel like you are fully-clothed.

As a merchant finds customers. Customers, those who purchase goods, are necessary to do business and make profits. You cannot run a business without customers.

As a child finds their mother. When a child is lost and cannot find their mother, the child searches everywhere until she is found. This is an analogy for how, when you read and recite the *Dharma Flower Sūtra*, you find the mother of your Dharma-body.

As a passenger finds a boat. In this analogy, one who wishes to cross the sea needs a boat. Without a boat, you cannot get across the sea. Now you have found a boat, for the *Dharma Flower Sūtra* is a great boat.

As a sick person finds a doctor. If you are sick but there is no doctor who can treat you, you may not be able to get well. However, you may meet a good doctor who can cure your illness. We are like sick people, and the *Dharma Flower Sūtra* is a good doctor who can cure our sickness and alleviate our suffering.

☞To be continued