



正法印
PROPER DHARMA SEAL

地藏菩薩本願經淺釋

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

【忉利天宮神通品第一】

CHAPTER ONE:

SPIRITUAL PENETRATIONS IN THE PALACE OF THE TRAYASTRIMSHA HEAVEN

宣化上人講解

國際譯經學院記錄翻譯

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聖女又問鬼王無毒曰。地獄何在。無毒答曰。三海之內。是大地獄。其數百千。各各差別。所謂大者。具有十八。次有五百。苦毒無量。次有千百。亦無量苦。聖女又問大鬼王曰。我母死來未久。不知魂神當至何趣。

「聖女又問鬼王無毒曰」：婆羅門女又問無毒鬼王，「地獄何在」：你說有地獄，地獄究竟在什麼地方呢？

「無毒答曰」：鬼王無毒對婆羅門女說，「三海之內，是大地獄」：在三個海裡邊，這就是大地獄。

怎麼叫業海呢？業海就是眾生的業力所聚集而成的。海是多的意思，不一定是真有海，而是指業力聚集，猶如大海那麼樣的無邊無量，這三種海也可以說是人的身口意三種業所造成的業海。所以無毒對婆羅門女說，三海之內是大地獄。「其數百千」：地獄有多少呢？有百千萬種那麼多。「各各差別」：每一種地獄都不同的，都有特別的設備。也可以說每一個人造每一種業，就有一種地獄。地獄

Sūtra:

The worthy woman asked the Ghost King Poisonless, “Where are the hells?” Poisonless answered, “Within the three seas are hundreds of thousands of great hells, each one different. Of those known as ‘great,’ there are eighteen primary ones in addition to five hundred subsequent ones, which inflict limitless cruel sufferings and hundreds of thousands more, which inflict limitless further sufferings.” The worthy woman again questioned the great ghost king, “My mother died recently and I do not know where her spirit has gone.”

Commentary:

The worthy Brahman woman asked the Ghost King Poisonless, Where are the hells? You spoke of the existence of hells. Ultimately where are the hells located? Ghost King Poisonless answered the Brahman woman and said, Within the three seas are hundreds of thousands of great hells.

What are these seas of karma? These seas of karma are composed of a conglomeration of living beings’ karma. “Seas” are symbols for something vast, not necessarily actual seas. They illustrate that accumulated karma is as limitless and boundless as the great sea. These three seas are created from the karma of people’s three karmic vehicles of body, mouth and mind. So Poisonless told the Brahman woman that within the three seas are the great hells numbering hundreds of thousands. How many hells are there? Billions of them

並不是人沒有死之前，就先造出個地獄預備著。不是的，地獄是由每一個人的自業所現出，自己造什麼罪業，就受什麼果報，造種種的惡業，就受種種的惡報。

好比有一種炮烙地獄，這個「炮烙」是用銅所造，裡面是空的，可用火在裡面燒。是什麼樣的人墮落到這種地獄裡呢？就是好淫欲的人，好淫欲的人墮落炮烙地獄，因為業力所感現，他看炮烙不是炮烙，而是和人一樣的形相。好淫欲的男人見到炮烙，就認為是個美女，所以就上去抱著這個美女，於是被火燒得皮焦肉爛，想要離也離不開了；要是個好淫欲的女人見到炮烙，就變成一個很英俊的男人，甚至於這男人就是她的舊朋友，於是乎認為他鄉遇故知，老友相逢，所以也就不顧一切要上去相親近，一親近也就被這種欲火燒死了。燒死了，然後地獄有一種巧風，是一種妙法所造成的。這巧風一吹，他又會復活，但是活了後，還是受那種果報，但他就忘了他方才所受的刑罰，而只記得那好處，又重蹈舊轍，所以又在那裡受苦果。炮烙地獄是這樣，其餘還有很多種，都有它的特別處，所以說各各差別。

「所謂大者」：所謂大地獄，「具有十八」：就有十八大地獄，每一個地獄裡又有十八隔，這十八隔就是十八個分別的處所。「次有五百」：其次又有五百地獄。「苦毒無量」：這種苦毒有數不盡那麼多。「次有千百」：其次又有千百那麼多地獄。「亦無量苦」：這些苦比五百地獄稍微輕些，但也是無量無邊的。「聖女又問大鬼王曰」：婆羅門女就問鬼王大哥，請你慈悲指示我，

「我母死來未久」：我的母親死了沒有好久，是最近死的。「不知魂神當至何趣」：不知道我母親的靈魂現在到什麼地方去了，請您鬼王大哥做做好事來告訴我。

☸待續

and each one of the hells is different, replete with its unique setup. It could be said that there is a hell for each kind of karma created by each person. Hells are not existent and prepared before people passed way. The hells manifest based on each individual's karma; each experiences retributions based on the offenses they have created. Those who make all sorts of bad karma will receive all sorts of bad retributions.

For instance, consider the Hell of Molten Pillars. The molten copper pillars are hollow and filled with raging fire. What kind of individual falls into the hells? Licentious individuals. The power of their karma makes these individuals see the copper pillar as being the shape of a person. A lusty man sees the molten copper and think it is a beautiful woman. As he runs forward and embraces the beautiful woman, his skin and flesh are seared; he is stuck to the pillar and try as he may, he cannot withdraw from it. A lusty woman sees molten copper as an extremely handsome man or an old friend. Paying no heed to her situation, she is intent on getting close to that man. But when she does get close, she gets burned to death by the fire of desire. After she is burned to death, a clever wind that wafts in the hells mysteriously rises and revives her. But she lives only long enough to go through the experience again. She has forgotten the agony she experienced; she only remembers what she was attracted to, so she races forward to receive the same terrible retribution. She does this repeatedly. This is how the Hell of Molten Pillars works. There are many different kinds of hells, each with each unique features.

Of those known as “great,” the greatest hells, there are eighteen primary ones. Each of these eighteen great hells have eighteen compartments that are distinctly different places. In addition to those are five hundred subsequent ones, five hundred more hells, which inflict limitless cruel sufferings. The various cruelties are uncountable. Besides those are hundreds of thousands more hells, which inflict limitless further sufferings. The sufferings inflicted in these hells are lighter than those in the five hundred previous hells but are also limitless and boundless.

The worthy woman again questioned the great ghost king. The Brahman woman asked, O big brother ghost king, please be compassionate and tell me. My mother died recently and I do not know where her spirit has gone. My mother passed not long ago, I do not know where my mother's soul went. Big brother ghost king, please do a good deed and tell me where her soul has gone.

☸To be continued