

納無量劫為一念

Countless Eons in a Single Thought

摘自宣公上人《華嚴經疏玄談淺釋》

束曉娟、李伯欣 英譯

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English Translated by Xiaojuan Shu and Justin Lee

時間是很有力量的，人是沒有力量的；為什麼？人沒有力量能把時間給留住。這個時間，你怎麼用力扯著它，它也要跑；它跑了，是有力量的。人老了，是沒有力量的；不單老了，而且又隨著時間會消滅了，會死的。所以，人是有生滅的，時間是沒有生滅的。有生滅的，就是沒有力量的；沒有生滅的，就是有力量的。所以這個法，你怎麼樣說，怎麼樣有道理。

因為我們留不住時間，所以我們就不要留這個時間；我們要明心見性，我們要返本還原。我們不要跟著時間跑，叫時間跟著我們來跑；這樣子，人就變成有力量，時間又變成沒有力量了，它要跟著人跑了。怎麼時間會跟著人跑呢？你要是明心見性、返本還原了，你「納無量劫為一念」，把無量劫能縮回來為一念，它雖然有力量，把它拉回來了；又能「延一念為無量劫」，把這一念伸開又為無量劫。這個時候，有力量、沒有力量，都是由人來操縱的。好像機器要有人來支配它，它才能做工；可是這個機器不能支配人，因為機器是無情的，人是有情的。那麼時間也是無情的，我們人是有情的。所以你要是會用，就能支配時間；你要是不會用，就被時間所支配了。

Time is very powerful, and people are powerless against it. Why is that? People do not have the power to make time stay still. No matter how hard you try to grasp at time, it slips away as it pleases. Time is powerful, yet people, bound to age, are powerless. Not only do we get old, but we also perish as time passes and eventually will die. Therefore, people come into being and cease to be, but time itself does not come into being, nor will it be extinguished. Whatever has birth and extinction has no power, and whatever is beyond this cycle has power. However you explain this Dharma, you can make it sound reasonable.

Because we can't hold on to time, we shouldn't bother trying. Rather, we must illuminate our minds and see our true nature. We must return to the source and restore our original state. We must not run chase after time, but rather make time run chase after us. In this way, we become empowered, while time loses its power and it chases us. How could time possibly chase us?

If you illuminate your mind and see your true nature, return to the source and restore your original state, you can “bring countless eons into a single thought;” that is, when you bring countless eons together, you can reduce them into a single thought. Although time may have power, you can pull that power back to you. You can also “extend one thought over countless eons;” that is, when you extend that one thought, you can stretch it over countless eons. At this moment, that which is powerful and that which is powerless will both be under your control.

A machine needs a person to control it for it to work. However, a machine cannot control a person because it is insentient, whereas a person is a sentient being. Similarly, time is insentient. So, if you are skillful, you will be able to control time; if you are