

論語淺釋(續) The Analects of Confucius (continued)





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Lectures by the Venerable Master Hua English Translation by Yong Wei Kwong and Liew Yen Chong

【雍也第六】

你有這種的妒忌心,那 是最邋遢的東西;你有妒忌 心了,我告訴你,那就是臭 不可聞的。狗為什麼願意吃 屎?牠就是因為做人的時候 盡妒忌人,所以來生做狗的 時候就連那個大便也吃。你 們誰若不怕吃大便,那麼你 們就生妒忌心。好像以前那 個果某,做人的時候就要吃 自己的大便,這就是妒忌心 很重。他有什麼妒忌心呢? 他就怕人家修行比他高了, 表示自己是個老修行;其實 完全是假的,在那兒用假面 具、賣假招牌,所以始終他 也成不了真,因為假的始終 是假的。

那個「好學」就是這樣子,要學道德,行為要有修養,要學這個!不是說盡一 天到晚戴個假面具去騙騙人,那麼樣叫有學問了,叫 好學了,還說:「啊!我拿

Chapter 6: As for Yong

Jealousy is the filthiest thing ever. It gives off an unbearable stench, I can assure you. Why is it that dogs like to eat excrement? It is because when they were human beings in their previous lives, they were always jealous of others. In the future, when they are reborn as dogs, they will even eat excrement. Any one of you who does not mind eating excrement can go ahead and be jealous. For example, in the past, there was a certain person, Guo so-and-so, who ate his own feces. This is due to his intense jealousy. What was he jealous about? He was afraid of other people attaining a higher level of cultivation than him, and so he did this to prove that he was a seasoned cultivator. Actually, it was all a sham. He was just wearing a mask and selling fake goods. Therefore, from beginning to end, he could not accomplish what is true. Whatever that is false at the start will be false throughout.

The same principle applies to one who is 'fond of learning'. It is imperative to acquire moral virtue and cultivate one's conduct! A person who puts on a false front to cheat people all day long cannot be said to be erudite or fond of learning. He may say, "Oh, I'm holding a book!" Genuine knowledge cannot be found in books, however. It must be applied in your daily activities and relationships with others, and in your manner of walking, standing, sitting, and reclining. All these will show whether you are fond of learning or not.

Confucius addressed the duke, saying, "There was one called Yan Hui who was fond of learning." Therefore, Confucius replied, "I had a student by the name of Yan Hui who was fond of learning." In what way? He knew that getting angry was wrong and so he never vented his anger on others. He never lost his temper, whether alone or in front of other people. Not only did

個書本。」真正的學問不在書本上,是 要用之於你的日用倫常、你的行住坐 臥——這一切都是表現出你是不是一個 好學的人。

「孔子對曰」:所以孔子回答說,「 有顏回者好學」:有個叫顏回的,他是好 學的。他好學什麼呢?「不遷怒」:他知 道生氣是不對的,他就不遷怒了。他不單 自己不發脾氣,也不對人發脾氣;不單自 己要學有修養,他對任何人都是希望人人 有修養,這樣子。「不貳過」:人非聖 賢,孰能無過呢?他犯過只犯一次,就永 遠再不犯這過錯了。譬如他發脾氣,孔子 說:「你不要再發脾氣了!」他就再不發 脾氣了。

你們各位要注意這一點。我叫你們不 發脾氣,你們誰能不發脾氣,那是真聽話 的人。有人說:「我不對人發脾氣,我就 對自己發脾氣!」對自己也不發脾氣,對 誰都不發脾氣,那是真正地有修養、有道 德、有思想。那麼你不要一天到晚盡到外 邊去找去,自己的地都荒了,也不種,捨 己田而耘人田。要迴光返照,就是把自己 內心整頓好了,問問:「我為什麼要有妒 忌心?為什麼要有煩惱?為什麼要那麼放 不下?」這都是最要緊的地方!

學聖人都要這樣,那麼學佛、學菩薩,那更要倒過來,就是你不願意的,你應該願意。所以要忍人所不能忍的,讓人所不能讓的,吃人所不能吃的,受人所不能受的,行人所不能行的,做人所不能做的。一定要真轉!旋乾轉坤,把它真正變過來!

「不幸短命死矣」:這個顏淵不遷怒、不貳過,可是好人壽命不長,很不幸運的,他就早死了——三十二歲死了。顏淵死,孔子哭得都要不活著了。「今也則亡wú)」:現在沒有了。「未聞好學者也」:我再也沒有見過這樣好學的人了!未聞,就是我沒有聽見過;不單沒見過,聽也沒聽見過。

he want to learn to be a cultivated person, but he also expected the same of everyone else. Furthermore, he **never repeated his mistakes.** As ordinary people are neither sages nor worthies, who is able to avoid making mistakes? If Yan Hui made a mistake, it was only once. From then on, he would not make the same mistake again. For example, if he lost his temper and Confucius told him not to do so, he would never get angry in future.

All of you must pay attention to this point. Anyone who is able to heed my advice not to get angry is really obedient. Someone may say, "I won't direct my anger at people but I'll direct it at myself!" If you can avoid losing your temper, whether with yourself or with other people, then you are genuinely a cultivated person who possesses moral virtue and good thinking. Now, do not spend all your time seeking these qualities externally. Your own land lies waste, yet you do not even bother to cultivate it. You are just tilling other people's fields at the expense of your own. What you should do is to reverse the light and illuminate within, which means rectifying your heart and mind. Ask yourself: "Why am I full of jealousy? Why must I be so afflicted? Why is it that I simply cannot put things down?" These are the most important things to consider!

This is how you learn to be a sage. If you want to learn to be Buddha or Bodhisattva, all the more you have to inverse your thinking. Whatever it is that you were not willing to do, you should be willing to do it now. Therefore, be patient where others cannot be patient; yield where others cannot yield; eat what others cannot eat; tolerate what others cannot tolerate; practice what others cannot practice; and do what others cannot do. You must really turn things around! Make a drastic change and genuinely transform yourself!

Unfortunately, he died at a young age! Yan Hui never gave vent to his anger or made the same mistake twice, but good people tend to be short-lived. It is most unfortunate that he died young at the age of thirty-two. When Yan Yuan passed away, Confucius wept his heart out. Now, there is none like him. Such a person does not exist anymore. I have not heard of anyone who is as fond of learning! Since then, I have not met anyone who likes learning as much as Yan Hui! Not only have I not come across someone like him, I have not even heard about such a person.

∞To be continued