

梁武帝問誌公禪師因果經 (續)

The Sutra of Emperor Wu of Liang Dynasty Inquiring of Chan Master Zhi Gong about Cause and Effect (continued)

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English Translated by the Early Bird Translation Group



羅漢偈曰

眼前保得無凶禍
他時免過鐵圍關
閑飲閑飯養閑身
閑遊閑戲斷六親
不是閑人閑不得
閑人不是等閑人
癡漢迷人不肯修
苦戀奔波不肯休

山中靜坐佛歡喜
鬧市場中佛也愁
螺蚌修成珍珠子
鱖鯪誥斗日夜求
蚯蚓尚能知聽法
人不修時失了頭
善人端的似青山
惟有青山不改顏
你問青山何日老
青山問你幾時閑

武帝又問。世間富貴之人。又得福壽雙全。相貌圓滿者。是何因緣。

【白話】梁武帝接著問道：「世間那些富貴雙全、福壽兼

The Arhat verse says:

*They will surely meet with no calamities
And will never have to go through the Iron Ring in the future.
Simple food and drinks are for those who live a simple life.
With both body and mind at ease, one cuts off all social ties.
If unable to live such a simple life, you are no recluse.
A true recluse is no ordinary person!
Deluded and foolish ones are unwilling to cultivate;
Constantly keeping themselves busy, they are lost in their infatuations.*

*Meditating on a mountain makes the Buddhas happy;
Meditating in a marketplace makes them concerned.
Clams and oysters develop and produce pearls,
While eels and loaches fight and argue, seeking all day long.
People who don't cultivate become confused,
Yet even some earthworms know to listen to the Dharma.
Virtuous people are akin to green mountains,
As green mountains are evergreen;
You ask green mountains, "When will you age?"
The green mountains ask you, "When will you live a simple life?"*

Emperor Wu further asked, "There are some people in the world who have wealth and prestige, enjoying both blessings and longevity; moreover, they have perfect physical features. What are their causes and conditions?"

Master Zhi Gong answered, "In their past lives, they studied the Buddhadharmas, upheld the precepts, and also performed many good deeds. Therefore, in this life, they are born into rich and noble households

備，而且相貌端正圓滿的人，是過去種下了什麼樣的因緣呢？」

誌公答曰。如是之人。是他先世。向佛門中。清淨持戒。作諸善業而來。是以今生。在富貴之家。長者之門。托生為人。相貌端嚴。六根清淨。無病無苦。受用大福。若到夏天。便有涼亭水閣。若到冬天。便有紅爐煖閣。出入往來。縱橫自在。人人恭敬。個個欽崇。好親好戚。好妻好妾。好子好孫。左右奴僕。時時擁護。財寶豐盈。受用不盡。是他前世。布施結緣。修來的自然之福。有誰人強分得他。雖然如此獲福。更要及早回頭。

【白話】誌公禪師回答道：「這樣的人啊，是他在過往的輪迴中，親近佛門、持守清戒、廣行善業，才結下了這樣的善果。所以今生投生於富貴之家、望族之門，得以為人。不但相貌端正莊嚴，身心清明，沒有病痛苦難，更享受著豐足的福報。」

「他們夏天有涼亭水閣，冬日有暖爐溫室；出入往來自由自在，處處受人敬重；親眷和睦，妻妾賢淑，子孫孝順；奴僕擁護，財寶豐足，一生享用不盡——這都是他前世布施結緣、修善積德而來的自然福報，哪裏是旁人能夠強奪或分割的呢？」

「然而，即使得到如此福報，更要及時醒悟、回頭修行，切莫沉溺於眼前的安樂啊。」

頌曰

受福有時盡 人壽有幾長
若復不再修 也是夢一場

誠哉實言歟。誌公長老嘆富貴偈曰

寒風凜凜雪花飄 多少豪門富貴嬌
煖閣紅爐炙炭火 金瓶酌酒賞香羔
身穿綾羅併錦綴 日食馨香滿口消
觀看如斯受大福 夙生曾種善根苗

or families of respected elders. Not only are they born with perfect and dignified physical features, but they also have complete and well-functioning six sense faculties and are free of illnesses. Thus, they undergo no suffering.

In the summer, they have cool alcoves and pavilions by the waterside; in the winter, they have warm stoves and heated towers. They can come and go anywhere, freely and at ease. Everyone respects them, and many admire and envy them. They have good families, wholesome relatives, beautiful wives, pretty concubines, good children, and wonderful grandchildren. They have servants and attendants here and there to always support and protect them. Their storehouses or safes are overfilled with jewels, gems, and other precious things, which are basically inexhaustible. All these forms of blessings result from their past lives' practice of giving and developing wholesome affinities with others. Thus, in this life, they are able to enjoy the blessings that they cultivated before. No one can carve up or seize their wealth. That being said, they should quickly turn around and start to cultivate.”

A verse of praise goes:

*Any blessing will be used up;
Any longevity will come to an end.
If a rich person doesn't keep cultivating,
All will just be a dream.*

Elder Master Zhi Gong exclaimed, “This verse is well said, true indeed.” He then said the following verse about the rich and noble:

*In the winter cold, the wind blows with fluttering snow.
Lo and behold, many of the noble are enjoying riches.
Their mansions and pavilions are kept warm by charcoal stoves.
With sparkling wine in glistening glasses, they taste sweet delicacies.
Their bodies are covered with satin embellished with embroidery.
Every day there is gourmet food: sumptuous are the meals.
Look how many blessings they enjoy,
All come from planting roots of goodness in past lives.*

待續

To be continued