



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

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Translated by the International Translation Institute



「蒼蔔油燈、須曼那油燈、波羅羅油燈、婆利師迦油燈、那婆摩利油燈供養」：蒼蔔，就是金色華，這種花會榨出油來，用這種的油來點燈。須曼那，就是稱意華，用這種花的油，來點燈供養《妙法蓮華經》。波羅羅，就是一種重生華，這種花生生了又生、生了又生，總也接連連不斷的；用這花的油來點的燈。婆利師迦，就是夏生華，在夏天的時候，它才開花；這種花也有油，用這種油來點燈。那婆摩利，「那婆」是梵語，譯為雜色華，這種花有一塊紅的、一塊綠的、一塊紫的、一塊白的、黃的，它雜色，青、黃、藍、白、黑，什麼色都有；「摩利」是梵語，就是茉莉華，這種花，小而白。用以上這種種花的油燈，來供養。「所得功德，亦復無量」：所得到的功德，也是無量無邊那麼多。

Lamps of campaka oil, lamps of sumanā oil, lamps of pāṭala oil, lamps of vārṣika oil, and lamps of navamālikā oil, the merit obtained is also immeasurable. *Campaka* is a yellow flower. The essential oil extracted from this flower can be burned in **lamps of campaka oil**. *Sumanā* is known as the “joyful flower.” You may make offerings to the *Dharma Flower Sutra* of **lamps of sumanā oil**, burning oil extracted from *sumanā* flowers. *Pāṭala* means “flower that blooms repeatedly.” This species of flowering plant produces blossoms continuously, and its oil can be burned in **lamps of Pāṭala oil**. *Vārṣika*, which means “summer-born flower,” is a flower that blooms only in the summer. Oil extracted from this flower is burned in **lamps of Vārṣika oil**. And *nava*, a Sanskrit word, means “variegated flowers”; *mālikā* is “jasmine.” These variegated jasmine flowers have patches of many different colors: red, green, purple, white, yellow, and other colors. The oil extracted from these flowers is burned in **lamps of navamālikā oil**. You may make offerings with lamps burning essential oils from various flowers such as these. **The merit obtained from making any of the aforementioned offerings is also immeasurable.**



宿王華！若有人聞是藥王菩薩本事品者，亦得無量無邊功德。若有女人，聞是藥王菩薩本事品，能受持者，盡是女身，後不復受。

「宿王華」：釋迦牟尼佛又叫一聲，宿王華菩薩！「若有人聞是藥王菩薩本事品者，亦得無量無邊功德」：不但聞全部《妙法蓮華經》的功德不可思議，就是有人單單聽見〈藥王菩薩本事品〉這一品，有這樣子的人，他也會得到沒有數量、沒有邊那麼多的功德。

我再給你們舉出一個例子來說，「若有女人，聞是藥王菩薩本事品，能受持者」：假使有女人，她能聽見〈藥王菩薩本事品〉這一品的經典，她再能念誦、受持這一品。「盡是女身，後不復受」：她若不歡喜這個女身，認為女身有很多的麻煩、有很多的煩惱，她不願做女人了；今生這個女身的生命結束之後——不是說我不願意做女人了，我自殺了，不要這個女人身，那不算的。

要妳把女人這個身體的報受完了之後，若不願意做女人的話，妳聽過《妙法蓮華經》〈藥王菩薩本事品〉之後，妳來生就不做女人了；但是這是要受持、要念誦這一品。如果你自己願意做女人，說是女人雖然有麻煩，但是我最歡喜這個女人的身體，我不歡喜做男人；那還是隨你自己的便，也不會勉強你不要做女人。這是說「如果」，所以女人不要聽見說不做女人，就害怕了：「快點跑，不聽經了！」不必害怕的。

☞待續

Sūtra:

Constellation King Flower, those who hear this chapter, *The Former Deeds of Medicine King Bodhisattva*. Shall also attain limitless, boundless merit. If a woman hears this chapter, *The Former Deeds of Medicine King Bodhisattva*, and upholds it, after her life ends she needs not be born as a woman again in her future lives.”

Commentary:

Śākyamuni Buddha addressed Constellation King Flower Bodhisattva, “Constellation King Flower, those who hear this chapter, *The Former Deeds of Medicine King Bodhisattva*, shall also attain limitless, boundless merit. Not only is the merit of hearing the entire, *Dharma Flower Sutra* inconceivable, but even hearing this chapter alone generates immeasurable merit.”

The Buddha said, “I’m going to give you another example. If a woman hears this chapter, *The Former Deeds of Medicine King Bodhisattva*, and reads, recites, and upholds it, after her life ends she needs not be born as a woman again in her future lives.” If there is a woman who dislikes having a female body and thinks it brings a lot of trouble and worry, she may not want to be a woman again. In that case, she still has to wait until she finishes her current life cycle. She cannot commit suicide just because she doesn’t want to be a woman; rather, she must wait for the natural end of her life. Then, having finished her karmic retribution as a woman, she will not be born as a woman again.

If she upholds the chapter *The Former Deeds of Medicine King Bodhisattva* in the *Dharma Flower Sutra*, then after her life as a woman comes to its natural end, she will not be born as a woman again. However, if you wish to be a woman, thinking, “Even though being a woman can be troublesome, I enjoy being one. I don’t want to be a man,” you can choose to do so. This passage does not mean you have to give up being a woman. It’s up to you. So, women hearing this shouldn’t be afraid that they cannot be born again as women and run off to avoid listening to the sūtra lecture.

☞To be continued

