

# 梁·寶誌公長老（續）

## The Venerable Elder Bao Zhi of the Liang Dynasty (continued)

宣化上人講於1985年

A Lecture by the Venerable Master Hua in 1985

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在梁朝那時候呀！佛法就像現在這個美國的佛法差不多。嗯！一般人都是很迷信的，信啦！就是迷迷糊糊的信，所以，死人請人念經，活人也請人念經，結婚也請人念經，那麼離婚也請人念經，那麼無論幹甚麼，生孩子也請和尚念經。

啊！這個和尚生意不錯，是「生意興隆通四海，財源茂盛達三江」，所以誌公生在這個迷信的時代，要來矯正風氣，矯正風氣嘛！誰請他去念經呢，他就去給念去。他不是矯枉批評過正的，那麼，他去念啦，就給人好像說點吉祥話。

那麼，偏偏當時有一位有錢的人，大約託梁武帝去同他講啦！說是去給念經，大約要給造一個禪堂。因為誌公祖師也歡喜參禪，有人要修禪堂，好啦！去啦！去到門口一看！就說，說甚麼呢？

古古怪！怪怪古

孫子娶祖母

女食母之肉

子打父皮鼓

豬羊炕上坐

六親鍋裡煮

眾人來賀喜

我看真是苦

待續

In the Liang Dynasty, Buddhism was similar to how it is now in America. Common Chinese people were superstitious; they believed in things they didn't truly understand. They invited monks to recite sutras for special occasions, like births, weddings, funerals, and even divorces.

Ah! Monks during that time had pretty good business. This is well described in the Chinese couplet: "Business flourishes throughout the Four Seas; fortunes flow like the Three Rivers." The Noble Zhi was born in this period of superstition in order to correct these trends and habits. Whenever anyone invited him to recite sutras, he would go and recite. Although he was aware of these monks' bad habit, he would not overly criticize their wrongdoings. He would only go to recite sutras and speak a few relevant auspicious verses.

At that time, there was a wealthy person, who probably requested Emperor Wu to invite the Noble Zhi to recite sutras for him. Perhaps he promised to build Noble Zhi a Chan Hall, since the Venerable Zhi also liked to meditate. So upon hearing someone would sponsor building a Chan Hall, the Noble Zhi said, "Okay, I will go." When he arrived at the door, he took a look inside and then spoke. What did he say?

Strange! So strange!

The grandson marries his grandmother.

A daughter eats her mother's flesh;

A son beats the drum made of his father's hide.

Pigs and goats sit on the brick beds;

The relatives are being cooked in the pot.

Everybody comes to offer congratulations!

But all I see is suffering.

To be continued