

# 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)

晨珪譯組 英譯

English Translated by the Early Bird Translation Group

復問。放生功德如何。

答曰。放生功德。不可限量。經云。蠢動含靈。皆有佛性。只因迷妄因緣。遂使昇沉各別。以渠生死輪迴。互為六親眷屬。改頭換面不復相識。若能發喜捨心。起慈悲念。贖命放生者。現世保病延生。未來當證菩提。

【白話】武帝又問：「放生有什麼功德呢？」

誌公禪師回答道：「放生的功德無量無邊。佛經上說，一切眾生，哪怕是微小的蟲蟻，都具有佛性。只因為被無明妄想所迷惑，才使得眾生各自輪迴於不同的生命形態。這些眾生在生死輪迴中，其實都曾彼此做過父母、子女等六親眷屬，只是改換了形貌，互相認不出來了。如果能生起歡喜布施的心，發起慈悲的念，出錢贖命、放生，現世能保佑健康、延長壽命，未來更能成就無上佛道。」

頌曰

放生合天心 放生順佛令  
放生觀音慈 放生普賢行  
放生無憂惱 放生少疾病  
放生嗣胤昌 放生官祿盛  
放生免三災 放生家門慶  
殺生與放生 果報明如鏡



待續

The Emperor asked further, “What about the merit and virtue of liberating life?”

The Master answered: “The merit and virtue of liberating life is limitless. A sutra says that all beings, including small insects and those partially endowed with intelligence, have the Buddha nature. Due to their confusion, delusion and causes and conditions, they either ascend or descend on the wheel of transmigration, undergoing rounds of death and rebirth. They become each other’s six kinds of relatives and retinue, yet since their identities have changed, they no longer recognize their past-life relatives. If one can bring forth a mind of kindness, compassion, joy, and equanimity to purchase and liberate captive creatures, then in the present life, one’s lifespan will be lengthened and have less illnesses. Moreover, in the future, one will attain Buddhahood.

A verse for liberating life goes:

*Liberating life accords with the will of Heaven.  
It conforms with the principle of the Buddha.  
It embodies the compassion of Guanyin Bodhisattva.  
It embodies the practice of Samantabhadra Bodhisattva.*

*Liberating life will free oneself from distress and worry.  
One who liberates life rarely becomes sick.  
One’s family lineage will prosper.  
One will have a stable career in the government.*

*Liberating life will free oneself from the three calamities;  
Auspiciousness will pervade one’s household.  
Rewards for liberating life and retributions for taking life  
Are as clear as reflections in a mirror.”*

To be continued