

地藏菩薩本願經淺釋

The Sutra of the Past Vows of Earth Store Bodhisattva with Commentary

【觀眾生業緣品第三】

CHAPTER THREE: CONTEMPLATING THE KARMIC CONDITIONS OF BEINGS



宣化上人講解

國際譯經學院記錄翻譯

佛經翻譯委員會修訂

Commentary by the Venerable Master Hua

Translated by the International Translation Institute

Revised by Buddhist Text Translation Society

它高一千里，「悉是鐵圍」：這個城牆都是鐵造的，這個鐵又堅固又涼，這就表示眾生的業報太堅固了，到這個地方，心裏就涼了。啊！爭名的心也沒有了，奪利的心也沒有了。到那個地方，只有一個受苦。哎喲！苦啊！苦啊！真苦啊！所以到那個地方，把什麼心都沒有了。誰打你一巴掌，也覺得比這火燒的還好得多。踢你一腳，你覺得還沒有狗咬的那麼痛，所以那時候你知足了，生出一種知足感。「上火徹下」：這個城上面的火，就燒得通到城下邊。「下火徹上」：下邊的火又通到上邊去。

「鐵蛇」：這種蛇是鐵的。也有「鐵狗」：鐵狗在城的四角，每一個角有一隻這個大狗。城牆中有一千里高，這狗也有八百里這麼高，每一個狗的頭上，又生出八個頭；每一個頭上，又有八個角。而狗有犄角，好像牛似的，這八個頭，共有六十四個角，這六十四個角，當牠頭一晃，來回這麼一攪啊，就變成火輪，就變成刀輪，好像刀似的。所以碰見哪個罪人，碰見誰，就用那個角把誰給捅壞。這長犄角的狗，誰看見過這一種的怪物？若沒有看見過，那可以去看一看，可是看一看，就不會回來了，不錯，一去就無蹤了，永無出期。到這個地方，不像看電影那麼好看的，你看完了可以回家。這看完了，就沒有家回了，也就是沒有自由了。 ㊦待續

The thousand-mile-high wall is **totally made of iron**. Iron is hard and cold. It symbolizes living beings' karmic retribution being so solid that when they get to that place, their hearts turn stone-cold. They give up any wish to compete for fame or profit. In such a place, there is only suffering. There is so much pain and agony that they no longer have the heart for anything. If you were there, a slap on the face would be much preferred over being burned by fire; someone kicking you would be preferred over the pain of being gnawed upon by a dog. You would feel content with the comparatively lesser suffering. **And the city is covered with a fire burning downward that is met by a fire burning upward.** The fire at the top burns all the way to the base of the city, while the fire below burns clear through to the upper part of the city.

Iron snakes and dogs... At every one of the four corners of this thousand-mile-high city wall is a dog eight hundred miles tall. Each dog has eight heads, each of which has eight bull-like horns, making a total of sixty-four horns. As the dogs shake their heads, the horns become wheels of fire and knives, stabbing and harming anyone that comes their way. Has anyone seen this kind of monster, a horned dog? If you have never seen one, go ahead and take a look if you wish, but let me tell you, you will never come back. You will be gone forever, as there is no returning from that place. Going there is not like going to the movies. When you go to the movies, you watch the movie and then go home, but when you go to the hells, there is no home to return to and no such freedom of choice. ㊦To be continued