

答 問 學 佛

Questions on Buddhism

士 居 南 炳 李 : 著 答 解

Answered by Mr. P. N. Li

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Q. The Buddha preached the salvation of beings. Did he make these statements without prior consideration like water pouring out? Are Buddhist canons based on worldly learnings?

A. If one is familiar with certain learnings, one can answer questions without much considerations. The Bodhisattvas have four unconquerable debating wisdoms. How much more does a Buddha have them? The Dharma contains both worldly learnings and the way to deliverance. You ought not say that the Dharma is based on worldly learnings.

Q. In the Pumen Charpter occurs the phrases, "Fine voiced Avaloketesvara, pure sounds the ocean's tidal roar." Please explain the meaning of the above phases.

A. These two phrases explain the meaning of the voice contained in the word Avaloketesvara. They indicate that the Bodhisattva has a very good voice with three thousand virtues; it is as loud as the tidal roar of the ocean with five kinds of pure sound.

Q. Some one told me that the Pava method of the Esoteric Sect is the same as the Pure Land practec. If the Pure Land practitioner tries this method, he is sure to be reborn on the Pure Land. Should I try it?

A. The two methods are similar; but you can only choose one. If you want, try the Esoteric method. You should visit a good instructor.

Q. If a Upasaka lived in a temple, and it happened that he was sick, would it be right for him to come back home?

A. He can come back home if he can't help it. If he can perform his practec in

his home, he need not go to the temple to live there again.

Q. If a young Upasaka lived in a temple but on growing up came back home and married, would that be committing a sin?

A. He has no concern with the theory and practice of Buddhism. Through he is not sinning, he sure is going backwards.

Q. If after one takes the precepts, he breaks them, although one takes them again, does he get evil retribution?

A. Retribution is delayed or cancelled if one repents. If one is reborn on the Pure Land, the retribution will be postponed forever.

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An Appeal

The Tsukuang Buddhist Library of Taichung was organized and established by the Lotus Club and other Buddhist in Taichung for the propagation of Buddhist culture and the elevation of human morality. All the expenses were made through contributions and all the staffs was composed of volunteers.

The library has collected six complete sets of the Tripitaka and two thousand volumes of Buddhist books. This amount is not considered enough and any contribution of Buddhist books will be very much appreciated. Please send your books directly to,

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