

矽谷梵音

Pure Sound From Silicon Valley

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The plum and bamboo endure the ice and snow, and I am ashamed of my naïve resolve to imitate them. The pine and cedar are evergreen, and I wish that you will be as healthy as they are.



金聖寺一角/ The scene at GSM

不爭、不貪、不求、不自私、不自利、不妄語。

No fighting, no greed, no seeking, no selfishness, no pursuing personal advantage, and no lying.

信佛須拜佛 ——敬佛七種禮

Those Believe in the Buddha Should Bow to the Buddha ---Seven Types of Bowing

◎宣公上人 開示

By the Venerable Master Hua

拜佛,連佛都不拜,怎麼談 得上信呢?所以我們必須要 禮拜佛像。有人說:「這個 佛像是木雕的,我們拜他有 什麼用啊?」並不是這個佛 像就是佛,你不要認錯了。 佛是遍滿一切處的,沒有任 何地方不是佛的法身所在 地。這個木像不過是一種表 法,用來代表佛而已。好像 每一個國家都有國旗,一般 老百姓都要向國旗行禮致 敬,這國旗是一塊布或者是

膠做成的,那你向它敬禮有 什麼用呢?這也是一種代 表,國旗就代表國家的一種 生命,所以人民向國旗敬 禮,也就是對國家恭敬。佛 像也是這樣子,不過是代表 佛的一個象徵而已,並不是 說這個佛像就是佛了。那我 們爲什麼對著佛像來禮拜 呢?佛是遍滿一切處,我們 應該向四面八方去頂禮叩頭 哪?這也不是。禮敬必須要 有所皈依,要有所皈依就要 有一個目標來代表。就像一

個國家有很多省分,你若要 向它的每一個省、每一個縣 去敬禮,那怎麼來得及啊? 所以只向這一面國旗來敬禮 也就夠了。我們向佛敬禮, 也是同樣的意思。

向佛敬禮,有七種禮法:

(一) 我慢 禮。什麼 叫我慢禮呢?就是看見人家 拜我也拜,但是我相還不 除,拜佛總是不自然,總覺 得我拜佛做什麼?我何必拜 他呢?叩頭叩得很不歡喜、 很勉強。或者看見他人拜 佛,我若不拜佛,這好像好 特別似的,覺得不好意思, 所以也就拜佛。雖然拜佛, 但是這個我相沒有空,還有 我慢存在,看著人家叩頭, 他也叩頭,心裏卻想:「這 真是迷信,叩頭有什麼用 呢!太迷信了!」

(二) 求名禮。什麼叫 求名禮呢?聽到很多人讚歎 說某某人拜佛拜得很多,他 又拜佛、又拜經、又拜懺, 真用功修行啦!聽人家這麼 讚歎,他也想要得修行的 名,於是他也就拜佛,也就 拜懺來隨喜。他雖然也隨 喜,但他不是真的爲拜佛, 是爲求這個修行的名字而 拜,這叫求名禮。他也不是 信,也不是爲不信而拜,他 是看見人家拜佛就有人供 養、恭敬、讚歎,說這是真 正修道的,他也要得到供 養、恭敬、讚歎,所以就拜 佛了。

(三)身心唱和禮。怎 麼叫身心唱和禮呢?就是看 見人家拜,我也拜;人家叩頭,我也叩頭,身和心就隨著人家轉——人家怎麼樣, 我就怎麼樣,不管拜佛有好處沒有好處,也不管拜佛是正信或是迷信,也沒有求名的心,就是隨著人家去做。這種禮沒有什麼功,也沒有什麼過,是平平常常的。

(四)智淨禮。什麼 叫智淨禮?智是智慧,淨是 清淨;以真正的智慧,清淨 自己的身、口、意三業來拜 佛。這是有智慧的人拜佛的 方法。你這兒一拜佛,就不 會再去殺生、偷盜、邪婬, 這是身業清淨。你這兒拜佛 的時候,沒有貪心,也沒有 癡心、瞋心,只有恭恭敬敬 拜佛的這麼一個心,所以意 業也清淨了。你拜佛就念佛 或持誦經咒,這樣子口業也 不犯了,口裏沒有綺語、妄 言、惡口、兩舌了,這是口 業清淨。身口意三業清淨, 以真正的智慧來拜佛,這叫 智淨禮。

(五)遍入法界禮。 怎麼叫遍入法界禮呢?拜佛 的時候,要觀想我這個身體 雖然沒有成佛,然而我的心 性是充遍法界的。現在我在 一位佛前來拜佛,同時就能 遍禮法界一切諸佛。不是單 單拜這一位佛,而是在每一 尊佛的前面,都有我的化身 在那兒向佛頂禮叩頭,同時 供養諸佛菩薩。所謂「一切 唯心造」,你的心是周遍法 界,這種禮也是周遍法界 的,你這種修行也就是周遍 法界。有人說:「什麼叫法 界呢?我聽經聽了幾天了, 不知道什麼叫法界。」所有 三千大千世界都在法界之內 包著的,在這法界的裏邊, 沒有到法界的外邊。所以你 的心盡虛空、遍法界,你這 恭敬禮也盡虛空、遍法界, 你所得的功德也是盡虛空、 遍法界,這叫遍入法界禮。

(六)正觀修行至誠 禮。正觀就是專一其心,來 觀想拜佛。我們拜一位佛就 是拜法界佛,拜法界佛也就 是拜一位佛。因爲十方三世 佛,是同共一法身,所謂 「佛佛道同」,我們要專一 其心來觀想拜佛,不打妄 想。不是人雖然在這兒拜 佛,可是這個心卻跑到電影 院去了,或者跑到跑馬場、 跳舞廳、酒吧或者飯館裏去 了。總而言之,不用買票的 這種旅行都各處去跑,忽然 而天,忽然而地,有的時候 就跑到紐約去了,也不知怎 麼樣又跑回到三藩市,他自 己以爲這真是有了神通了, 其實連鬼通都沒有,不要說 神通,這就是妄想,就叫邪 觀,沒有正觀。

正觀修行,就不打這 些個妄想了,拜佛就是一心 拜佛,心不二用,不會在這 兒拜著佛還打其他的妄想。 這種正觀修行的一拜,你拜 一佛勝過你拜百千萬佛,也 就勝過其他那些打妄想的人 拜百千萬拜那麼多。所以修 行是要得其門而入,你要知 道法門。你若不知道法門, 雖然是一樣的拜佛,人家那 兒拜佛就是拜佛,你這兒拜 佛就打妄想:「等一下拜完 佛,就去喝杯咖啡,或者飲 點酒。」你這樣就不是正觀 修行至誠禮,這是邪觀。拜 佛的時候不好好拜,儘打妄 想,這太沒有功德了。

實相平等禮,就是不 著相的平等禮拜三寶,恭敬 佛、恭敬法、恭敬僧,沒有 分別的這麼拜。一念也不 生,一念也不滅,這就是不 生不滅的一種實相平等法。 所謂「一念不生全體現」, 你真能拜佛,拜到一念不 生,那時候十方世界就現全 身。你這個身體雖然在這 兒,但就和法界一樣大,也 就是實相,實相無相。你拜 得無人、無我、無眾生、無 壽者,和法界合成一體,你 這個身體也就是法界,法界 也就是你這個身體,你看這 妙不妙!以前你的身只有須 彌山那麼一點點,須彌山在 法界裏就好像一粒微塵那麼 大而已,你不要以爲須彌山 有多大。現在須彌山在你的 法身裏邊,你把須彌山包住 了,你看這妙不妙!所有字 宙的一切萬物,沒有不在你 這個法性裏頭包著,也沒有 你不明白的。這種實相平等 禮,是一種不可思議的境 界。你若能以拜佛拜到這種 境界上,你說這個妙處還能 說得完嗎?是說不完的。

Those who believe in the Buddha must bow to the Buddha. If you do not bow, how can you insist that you believe? So you must bow to the Buddha images.

There are those who think that because Buddha images are carved from wood, there is no use in bowing to them. Do not mistakenly think that a Buddha image is actually a Buddha. The Buddha pervades everywhere. The Buddha's Dharma body is omnipresent. A Buddha image is only a symbol of the Buddha, and nothing more. For example, each country in the world has its own flag, and the citizens of each country perform something like a pledge of allegiance to their flag. Even though flags are just made out of a piece of cloth, or pieces of cloth sewn together, they represent the country. We perform our pledge of allegiance to the flag as a way of embodying our respect for our country.

Showing respect to an image of the Buddha works in the same way. The symbolic images of the Buddhas are definitely not the Buddhas, and so why do we bow to them? The fact that the Buddha pervades everywhere suggest that we should bow to all the four directions and the eight points on the compass, but that is impractical. What is needed is something to which one can return and rely; a symbol is

needed to represent the Buddha. You do not run off to all the different provinces and countries to show your respect to the country. This would not be practical. So a flag is considered sufficient as an object of respect. Bowing to the Buddha works in the same way.

There are seven different ways that people bow to the Buddha. The first is "arrogant bowing," and describes a person who, although he or she bows to the Buddha, still has a mark of a self. When someone like this bows to the Buddha, it is forced, and is accompanied by thoughts like this: "What am I doing bowing to the Buddha? Why do I have to bow to him?" A person like this becomes annoyed at being forced to put his head down. He sees everyone else bowing and feels that if he does not bow along with them, he will stand out, and so out of embarrassment he bows to the Buddha. Although he bows, his mark of self is still not empty; on the contrary, he is filled with arrogance. This describes the first kind of bowing which is called "arrogant bowing."

The second kind of bowing is called "seeking for fame." This category describes someone who hears others praising a cultivator saying, "That person bows often and really cultivates vigorously; he bows to the Buddhas, he bows to Sutras, and he bows

repentance ceremonies. He is truly a diligent cultivator. Upon hearing the praise of this cultivator, he also wishes to be recognized as a cultivator, so he begins vigorously bowing to the Buddha, and although he find pleasure in bowing, he does not truly bow to the Buddha; he is bowing for recognition. He is seeking recognition as a cultivator, and the pleasure he finds is in that recognition, and his dreams of fame. This is the category of bowing called "seeking for fame."

With the first, arrogant bowing, you see others bowing so you bow along, but you think to yourself, "Oh, this is really superstitious. Of what possible use could it be?" The second, seeking for fame, is not performed because you believe or do not believe; you bow because you see someone else bowing and receiving offerings, respect and others' praise. Since you too wish to receive offerings, respect, and praise, you bow to the Buddha.

The third is called "bowing with a body and mind concurring." What does this mean? It describes a person who bows when he sees others bowing. Both his body and mind go along with what everyone else is doing in mindless imitation, without the slightest concern as to whether bowing to the Buddha is beneficial or not, or whether it is reasonable or superstitious. You

do not seek for recognition; you just follow along with everyone else, your body and mind concurring. This kind of bowing has no real benefits and no real faults.

The fourth kind of bowing is called "wise and pure." "Wise" refers to the function of wisdom, and "pure" refers to the development of purity. It describes one who uses true wisdom to purify his body and mind. People who are wise use their method to bow to the Buddha, and by so doing, they purify the Three Karmas of body, mouth, and mind.

When someone uses this fourth method to bow to the Buddha, his body karma is correct inasmuch as he does not kill, steal, commit sexual misconduct, and so in this way his body karma is purified. When he uses this method to bow to the Buddha. he entertains thoughts of greed, hatred, or stupidity, but rather possesses the wisdom born from single-mindedly and respectfully bowing to the Buddha, and so the karma of mind also becomes pure. When someone bows to the Buddha, he also recites the Buddha's name, and by doing so, or by holding and reciting Sutras and mantras, his mouth karma is also correct and devoid of any harsh speech, false speech, irresponsible speech or duplicity, and is thereby purified. When the Three Karmas of body, mouth, and mind are pure, this is called

"wise and pure bowing," with which one uses true wisdom to bow to the Buddha.

The fifth kind of bowing is called "pervading everywhere throughout the Dharma Realm." What does this mean? It describes one who, when bowing, contemplates: "Although I have not yet become a Buddha in body, my mind's nature fills the Dharma Realm. As I bow before this one Buddha, I bow everywhere before all Buddhas. I am not just bowing before one Buddha; my transformation bodies bow before each Buddha, simultaneously making offerings to Buddhas and Bodhisattvas."

Consider that "Everything is made from the mind alone," and so one's mind totally pervades the Dharma Realm. One's bowing practice totally pervades Dharma Realm. What is the Dharma Realm? All of the Three-thousand Great-thousand worlds are contained within it. In fact, nothing is outside of the Dharma Realm. With this kind of bowing, you contemplate your respectful bowing as it totally pervades the Dharma Realm. This bowing is called "pervading everywhere throughout Dharma Realm."

The sixth is called "sincerely cultivating proper contemplation." One who cultivates proper contemplation is one who concentrates his mind and

contemplates bowing to the Buddha. "Bowing to the Buddha is bowing to the Buddhas of the Dharma Realm; bowing to the Buddhas of the Dharma Realm is just bowing to one Buddha." This is because all Buddhas of the ten directions and the three periods of time share one Dharma body in common, and all Buddhas countries and Ways are identical." A concentrated mind must be used to bow to the Buddha, to contemplate the Buddha, and to cultivate, so that you will not have false thoughts.

It is not considered to be proper contemplation if when you are bowing, your mind runs off to the movies, or to the race track, or goes off hunting, or to a dance hall, a bar, or a restaurant. You do not need to purchase a ticket for your mind to travel off in all directions. With no travel arrangements at all, suddenly it is in the heavens, and suddenly it is on the earth. Sometimes your mind will fly off to New York and then for no apparent reason, it comes back to San Francisco. You think, "Oh, I was here bowing to the Buddha, and then I went to New York, only to fly back to San Francisco again. This must be a spiritual power!"

Now in fact, this is not even a ghostly power, let alone a spiritual power. It is nothing more than false thinking, and is called deviant contemplation or improper contemplation. If you cultivate with proper contemplation, then you will not have these false thoughts. You would bow to the Buddha with one mind which is not divided.

"Sincerely cultivating" means that when you bow once, it surpasses bowing one million bows made by someone who bows while false thinking. So, in cultivating, "When you reach the gate, then you enter." You should understand this dharma door, because if you do not, then when you see others bowing to the Buddha, you will not bow the way they do, but instead will think, "Oh, as soon as I'm finished bowing, I'm going to have a cup of coffee, or perhaps I'll have a drink." People like this have no control over their minds, and after they have finished bowing, they run off to have a drink.

The problem is that not only do they themselves go out to drink, but they drag everyone else out with them. This is really pitiful. This is not "cultivating purely with proper contemplation," but is a form of deviant contemplation, because if you have false thoughts while you are bowing, your worship is devoid of any merit and virtue.

The seventh is called the "true mark of impartial bowing." It describes a person who bows

and yet does not bow; who does not bow while he bows. When I say this, some of you are thinking, "You say we should bow and yet not bow, and not bow and yet bow. Therefore, if I don't bow to the Buddha, won't I be bowing to the Buddha?" This is not what I mean. Wit this kind of bowing, although you bow to the Buddha, you are not attached to a mark of bowing to the Buddha. You cannot distort the meaning and say that while you are not bowing to the Buddha, it counts as bowing to the Buddha. One who speaks like this is mentally disturbed.

For example, recently someone told me that he had attained the void. This is an extremely stupid thing to say. What is more, people like this cannot be helped, and there is no way to save them because their heavy attachment-nature makes them too stupid.

The "true mark of impartial bowing" means that "I am bowing to the Buddha, I am impartially bowing to the Triple Jewel; I am reverent to the Buddha; reverent to the Dharma; and reverent to the Sangha. Although I bow in this way, I nevertheless do not discriminate that I am bowing and "not one thought is produced, nor is one though destroyed." This is the dharma of the "true mark of impartial bowing." It is a dharma which involves neither production destruction:

"When not even one thought arises, the entire substance appears." When you bow to the Buddha to the point that not even one thought is produced, you manifest your body throughout the entire Dharma Realm. Although your body is bowing here, it is the same size as the Dharma Realm. This is just the true mark, which has no mark. You bow until there are no people, no self, no living beings and no life-span. You become one and the same substance with the Dharma Realm. Your body is just the Dharma Realm; the Dharma Realm is your body.

Is this not wonderful? Before your body was just a speck on Mount Sumeru, and Mount Sumeru was the size of a dust mote in the Dharma Realm. But when you reach the point of the "true appearance which has no appearance," Mount Sumeru is contained within your Dharma body. You now contain Mount Sumeru. Is this not wonderful? You totally contain everything; everything in the universe is contained within your nature, and you understand everything. The true mark of impartial bowing is an inconceivable state. If you can reach this state while bowing to the Buddha, can you then explain all of its wonderful aspects? No, they are ineffable.

為什麼要懺悔

Why should we repent and reform

◎宣公上人 開示

By the Venerable Master Hua

我昔所造諸惡業 皆由無始貪瞋癡 從身語意之所生 一切我今皆懺悔

這是說的懺悔業障。

愚人無過,一般愚癡的人都 說自己沒有過錯;小人文 過,小人犯了過錯就把它掩 飾起來,不叫人知道;君子 改過,君子有過了就歡喜改 過;聖人寡過,聖人的過就 很少很少了。佛菩薩就沒有 過了。

「我昔所造諸惡業」: 在往昔,在過去生中,無量 劫以來,我生生世世所造的 惡業。爲什麼我造出來很多 的惡業?「皆由無始貪瞋 癡」:都是因爲自己從無始 劫以來,生出一種貪心、瞋 心、癡心而造出來的。由於 貪而無厭,就造了很多罪 業。如果得不著自己所要的 For all the evil deeds I have done in the past

Created by my body, mouth, and mind,

From beginningless greed, anger, and delusion,

I now know shame and repent of them all.

Commentary:

These verses speak of repenting of karmic obstructions and reforming. Why would you want to repent and reform? Through repentance, great offenses can become small ones. No matter what kind of offense karma you have, repentance is most important, because as soon as you repent and reform, you offense karma will be destroyed.

Confucius said.

Don't be afraid to correct your faults.

If you can correct your faults, they will cease to exist.

Inferior people say they have no faults,

But the superior person changes his faults.

If you fear correcting your faults, you will only create more faults, but if you can correct your faults, then they will cease to exist. If you hide your faults by covering them up, not wanting people to know about them, or if you covet them, then your faults will become greater. Most stupid people say that they have no faults. But the superior person wishes to change his faults, and sages decrease their faults; as for Buddhas and Bodhisattvas, they have no faults at all.

The text reads, for all the evil deeds I have done in the past. "Past" refers to everything that has come before the present time. In past lives for limitless kalpas up to the present, in each life, I have created evil karma. Why have I created evil karma? Because of boundless greed, hatred, and stupidity. How did I create all of this evil karma? It all stems from beginningless greed, anger and delusion. For an

uncountable number of kalpas up to the present, my mind has been filled with greed, anger and stupidity. With a greedy mind, one never feels satisfied and one creates many offenses. If people do not get what they want, they give rise to afflictions and anger. Afflictions and anger arise because of delusion, because stupidity fills their minds. In the beginning there was a though of greed, and the basis of greed is delusion and ignorance.

My evil acts were created by body, mouth, and mind. The killing, stealing, and sexual misconduct created by my body, the greed, hatred, and stupidity created by by mind, and the irresponsible speech, false speech, abusive speech, and gossip created by my mouth are the ten evil acts created by the body, mouth, and mind. I now know shame and repent of them all. When I realize my mistakes, I want to repent of and reform the ten evil acts and change myself.

叩頭、拜懺要拜得越多越好,不能拜一拜,就說:「我很辛苦囉,很疲倦了。」要越拜 越有精神,越懺悔越歡喜,這才是真正的懺悔。

When you repent, the more you bow, the better. Don't bow for just a short time and say: "I am so tired." The more you bow, the more energetic you should feel; the more you repent, the happier you should be. This is the genuine repentance.

宣公上人 語錄/ By the Venerable Master Hua

宣公上人答問錄

Question And Answers by the Venerable Master Hua

日日 1 : 在夢裏犯錯也要懺悔嗎?

人:一切唯心造,意念不正, 就要懺悔。

人:佛前頂禮,罪滅河沙, 要拿出誠心來懺悔 If you wish to repent of karmic obstacles and reform, then you must follow along and rejoice in merit and virtue by doing many kinds of meritorious and virtuous acts. In fact, doing meritorious and virtuous acts is just repenting of one's karmic obstacles and reforming. Therefore it is said, "To follow and rejoice in merit and virtue is to repent of karmic obstacles and reform. And to repent of karmic obstacles and reform is to follow and rejoice in merit and virtue."

Q: Do I have to repent the offenses committed in my dreams?

A: Everything is created from the mind.
As long as your mind is not proper, you should repent and reform.

Q: How can I remove as soon as possible such a heavy offense I have committed?

A: Bowing to the Buddha will eradicate offenses as many as sands of a river. You should repent and renew with a sincere heart.



金聖寺

十一、十二月份法會活動表2017年

GOLD SAGE MONASTERY ANNOUNCEMENT OF DHARMA ASSEMBLIES

十一月份活動 Buddhist Events in November, 2017					
11/ 12 週日 8:00AM~9:00AM		楞嚴咒法會 The Shurangama Mantra Recitation			
週日 (Sunday)	11 / 12	楞嚴經講座 (9:00am~10:45am) Lecture on the Shurangama Sutra			
	11/ 19~ 26	梁皇寶懺法會(8:15AM~4:30PM) The Jeweled Repentance of Emperor Liang			
	11/ 19	八關齋戒 6:30AM Transmission of the Eight-fold Precepts			
每日1 pm		大悲懺法會 Great Compassion Repentance			

慶祝觀世音菩薩出家日 Celebration of Guan Yin Bodhisattva's Leaving Home 金聖寺將安排巴士前往聖城參加法會,請於11 月2 日以前報名。 GSM will arrange bus tour for same-day travel. Please sign up before November, 2	11 / 5 週日	萬佛聖城 (CTTB)

十二月份活動 Buddhist Events in December, 2017	日期 Date	地 點
楞嚴經講座 Lecture on the Shurangama Sutra	12/3,17 週日 9:00~ 10:45AM	
楞嚴咒法會 The Shurangama Mantra Recitation	12/3,17 週日 8:00~ 9:00AM	
念佛共修法會 Dharma Assembly of Buddha Recitation	12/10 週日 8:15AM~4:00PM	金聖寺
慈悲三昧水懺 Dharma Assembly of Water Repentance	12/24週日8:15AM~ afternoon	(GSM)
大悲懺法會 Great Compassion Repentance	每日(Everyday)1 pm	

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梁皇寶懺法會

The Jeweled Repentance of Emperor Liang

金聖寺謹訂於 11 月 19 日(星期日)至 26 日(星期日)舉行梁皇寶懺法會 (每天從早上八時十五分至下午四時三十分) 虔禮梁皇寶懺,懺悔業障,普利冥陽,離苦得樂。 法會期間,並可設消災延壽及超薦牌位。

八關齋戒:11月19日(星期日)早上六時三十分 Transmission Refuge with the Eight-fold Precepts: 6:30 am on November 19 (Sun.)

Gold Sage Monastery will be conducting **The Jeweled Repentance of Emperor Liang** from November 19 to 26, 2017 (8:15 am—4:30 pm everyday)

The faithful can thus repent their karmic obstacles, benefit the living and the underworld, So that they leave suffering and attain bliss.

Setting up Plaques for Lengthening Life and for the Rebirth is available.