



Nancy, 01/16/2021

How to Change the Pandemic?

Hi everyone, this is Nancy. Today is Jan. 16th. How are you doing? It's a difficult time. Many people around the world are praying for the pandemic to go away as soon as possible. Life is truly not convenient for everyone. Traveling becomes an adventure. People lost their jobs; students may have to discontinue their study abroad; Couples may be separated in different places. One of the facebook friends said she prayed to Ksitigarbha Bodhisattva and a master to beat coronavirus. She said that one of her friends borrowed money from banks to open hotels and restaurants, and due to coronavirus, he went bankrupt, went into debt, and closed business. Also I remember she planned to visit another country at the beginning of this year, which becomes impossible considering the situation. These are the reasons why she prayed the pandemic to go away.

So who to blame? Should we complain coronavirus? How to truly change the situation?

When the Buddha was still Prince Siddhartha, there were many things, either big or small, troubled him. He saw the buffalo straining to pull a heavy plow; he saw worms and other small creatures being cut when the plow turned the earth; he saw the birds flying down to pick up and eat the worms; he saw big bird swooping down to grab the small bird; he saw the arrogant, manipulating and oppressing brahmans and the impoverished lowly people; he saw the monks who had nothing and wanted nothing, he saw the brahmans who were competing for power; he saw the hardships in the poor families and no matter how they tried, they still could not escape their miserable situations; he saw how the officials protecting and fortifying their own power without caring about how to alleviate the suffering of those in need; he saw that though being the king of the country and aware of the corruptions and greed of the officials, his father was not able to do much because he also relied on officials to maintain his own power.

Everything has changed now. We wear different clothes, live in different abodes, and interact in different ways. However, everything has not changed because the above observations of Prince Siddhartha still exist everywhere on the earth. Do you agree? The changed is the surface, the appearance; while the unchanged is the root, the causes, the greed of the people, the hatred and ignorance of the people. Or we may say that people might have become more clouded compared to thousands of years ago. Or we may say that people have not been changed from countless kalpas ago.

How to change then? How to fundamentally change everything? Only when the mind is changed, could everything truly make a change. If the mind does not change, people might be helped temporarily, but after some time, they will come to the same situation.

I asked my friend: "You said that your friend was bankrupt because of the coronavirus. Did he have other choices when he decided to borrow money from the bank? Was it in fact because of his greed?" She thought for a while and said, "Yes, he did have other choices. You are correct."



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I observed that during the pandemic, some people had to return to their own country while some could stay and obtain a status which they would not be able to obtain if there were not the coronavirus. One of my friends was able to stay and work in US since she was not able to take the plane back to her country in February last year.

I observed that during the pandemic, many people lost their jobs and could not make a living while some could obtain more money than they had expected under normal conditions. Some of the people even had their saving doubled last year.

The Heaven sees; The Way knows; Everything is fair. The Way, the cosmic law is of non-ego and unconditional.

So let's not complain the Heaven and the Earth. Always reflect on ourselves: Am I out of the Way? Am I self-centered? Am I arrogant? Was I greedy? Was I not humble? Did I do anything wrong? Do I have too much desire?

Real change starts from changing the mind. Everything else follows. This is what the Buddha and his disciples did, planting Dharma seeds into the heart of the people to open their wisdom, remove their greed, ignorance and hatred. Lead them to their self-nature. Let them see their inner light. And of course, respect the Heaven and the Earth.

Amitabha! Thank you everyone for being here watching this video. Consider subscribing the channel for weekly dharma talks, meditation sessions, sutras and mantras. Have a blessed and joyful day. See you next time! Bye.