Perfection and Christ's Blessing

Rob Burbea · Notable Dhamma Teachers — Rob Burbea · 4:30

We have a very different sense of perfection—our perfection, the perfection of being. Perfection runs through being, through existence itself.

Washing my hair. It's so bony now. I've lost so much weight. I feel my body wasted away—very much just bones, really. I can't see properly. I can't stand up. I don't have any balance. I'm washing my hands after going to the toilet, trying to be careful because of the virus. There you go. So now we're in touch—one hand on the other, the soap and the touch. And there's some kind of perfection there, some kind of beauty of God's grace.

This has nothing to do with perfection in the way that we usually understand it or think of it—becoming perfect. It's a way of seeing. It's very personal. I mean, it's universal and it's personal. Somehow the love in there, somehow the being known in there, the knowing. All of this is wrapped up in a perfection. A perfection wraps it up. It permeates through, it shoots through, it exudes it, it expresses it.

I'm feeling so bad, feeling so weak and tired and lost in almost all capacities. Somehow, Jesus' blessing is on everything. I don't know what that means. What does it mean? The heart—meaning the heart and the soul—knows something, feels something, senses something, opens to something, realizes something. Jesus' blessing is on everything, and that blessing is a perfection.

It is the opposite of accumulating wonderful capacities. It's in the stripping away, the loss, the misery, the incapacity. There's this word in theology—theodicy—which is like trying to explain how the occurrence of difficult, bad, even evil things is congruent or makes sense with a good God. Theodicy. There are all these different theories and perspectives.

Maybe it's something to do with what we need to sense in the soul. The soul senses something. We open to something. We glimpse something. We taste something. Our heart knows something. The heart of our soul knows something. We see it. We feel it. Jesus' blessing is on everything. Christ's blessing is on everything, in everything—in the dukkha itself, right there in the powerful dukkha.

It's a very different sense of perfection.

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