

On Money and Cell Phones

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Money is one way very beneficial. One way, useless! Worse than useless—like a demon. Really the way people get berserk about money, it is like a demon has possessed them. It doesn't gobble up their body but it gobbles up their precious human chance. Some people even sell their body or are happy to damage or break it for money—that sounds like they are blessed by demons, doesn't it? My goodness, how much faith they have in it! They sound like bodhisattvas, offering their bodies to that demon!

Recently I saw an old student, they have been my friend for a long time. I told them that they are at my same stage—their life is almost over. It is like we are already dead, that is how much time we have left! I asked them please to practice, whatever minutes or seconds they have, not just to keep chasing money. I don't know if they will listen or not, but really that is my prayer for them.

People are busy their whole lives, chasing money. What do they get? Nothing! That is not just something I am saying—it is something you can check and see for yourself. When somebody dies, does their money help them? Can it give them a longer life? No sickness? Can it make the Lord of Death go away? If you pay, does that mean you won't have to suffer all the terrible things at the moment of death? No. Money doesn't help one hair with those things. In all of history, not even the richest king was helped by their money at the moment of death. All the rich people of the past are dead, same as the poor people.

Also, I think when you die, you are going to be liberated in your telephone! Amazing, how everybody goes inside there. I get stuck there, too. I like to see His Holiness the 16th Karmapa and the Dalai Lama, and also naughty children playing—they show me these things in the videos. Really interesting, too, how you can spy almost anyplace with that. Sort of fun. But one way, you are getting nothing. Can you get delicious things to eat inside your telephone? Can you even get one cup of tea? It looks like really everybody is getting something, lost inside there, but actually nothing! That way we lose our precious chance. Maybe when you die there is a cemetery inside the telephone, you can go there. Or maybe your consciousness will just go into your phone instead of into the bardo! They will say, "Oh, he or she is dead, but they have gone inside their telephone!"

So interesting. But! Don't forget your OM MANI PEME HUNG. Don't forget your OM BENZAR SATTO HUNG. These are not fancy, not rich, but really they have value. More than money or diamonds, they can help. We are always searching for the flashy one, we want handsome or pretty or rich or smart. We naturally trust that, search for that, really holding to that. But the real one we already have, in our own pocket. Just a simple OM MANI PEME HUNG will bless you more than demons. Don't get those mixed up!

Tashi Delek!

-Gyatrul

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