

“Lessening one’s Karmic Retribution”

(Tenjū kyōju hōmon)

October 5, 1271 (Age 50)

In the Nirvana Sutra, there is a doctrine called “lessening one’s karmic retribution.” If one’s heavy negative karma accumulated since one’s past existences is not eradicated in this lifetime, then he is destined to undergo the sufferings of hell in the future. However, if he endures severe agony in this lifetime, the sufferings of hell will instantly disappear, and after his death, he will receive the benefit of reaching the states of humanity, rapture, the three vehicles, or the one vehicle of Buddhahood.

(Gosho p. 480-481 / Selected Gosho Passages p.224)

Nichiren Shoshu Myosenji

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