Aņguttara Nikāya Navaka-Nipātā

The Book of Nines

Selected Suttas

Translated from the Pāļi by Michael M. Olds



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Namo tassa arahato, sammā sambuddhassa In the name of The Aristocrat, Consummately Self-Awakened One

For my Mother and Father, in gratitude for giving me this life.

To the Bhikkhus Sāriputta, Mahā Moggallān, Mahā Kassapa and Ānanda, and all those unnamed Bhikkhus that carried the *Dhamma* in mind before it was written down and those who wrote it down.

To my book-learn'n teachers
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The Pali Text Society translators
T.W. and C.A.F. Rhys Davids, F.L. Woodward,
E.M. Hare, I.B. Horner,
and all those too little-sung heros

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And to all those others,
too numerous to mention
that added to my understanding in small and large ways,
but among them especially must be mentioned
that of Carlos Castaneda.

Buddha Dust

Bits and scraps, crumbs, fine
Particles that drift down to
Walkers of The Walk.
Then: Thanks for that, Far-Seer!
Great 'Getter-of-the-Get'n!

Scorn Not the Beggar

Scorn not the beggar and his bowl, for in the eyes of God, we are beggars, all.

Aņguttara Nikāya Navaka-Nipātā

The Book of Nines

Selected Suttas

Namo tassa arahato, Sammā Sambuddhassa

In the name of The Aristocrat, Consummately Self-Awakened One

Evam Me Sutam

I Hear Tell:



Once upon a time, The Consummately Self-Awakened, Rājagaha revisiting, Vulture's-head rock.

There then Sutava the Wanderer approached The Consummately Self-Awakened. and drew near.

Having drawn near he exchanged greetings together

with The Consummately Self-Awakened.

Having exchanged greetings and shared friendly talk he took a seat to one side.

Seated to one side then, Sutava the Wanderer said this to The Consummately Self-Awakened:

"There was once, Bhante, a time when The Consummately Self-Awakened, this very Rājagaha revisiting, Vulture Head.

There, Bhante,

I heard this from the mouth, received this from the mouth of The Consummately Self-Awakened:

'The beggar, Sutava,
who is arahant,
corruptions eliminated,
unoccupied,
duty's doing done,
load laid down,
his own good gained,
yokes to living thoroughly broken,
highest answer-knowing free,
cannot behave
in these five manners of
carrying on:

A corruptions-eliminated beggar cannot behave with the purpose of cutting off breathing life.

A corruptions-eliminated beggar cannot behave such as to take by theft what is not given.

A corruptions-eliminated beggar cannot behave such as to engage in things related to copulation.

A corruptions-eliminated beggar cannot behave such as to knowingly tell a lie.

A corruptions-eliminated beggar cannot behave such as to store up for the pleasure of enjoyment in the same way as when earlier living in a house.' I hope, bhante,
I well-heard,
well-grasped,
well-meditated on,
well set up
what The Consummately Self-Awakened said?"

"That you have, Sutava!

That you have well-heard well-grasped well-meditated on well set up!

Previously I have, and currently I say thus, Sutava:

'The beggar who is arahant, corruptions eliminated, unoccupied, duty's doing done, load laid down, his own good gained, yokes to living thoroughly broken, highest answer-knowing free, cannot behave in these nine manners of carrying on.

A corruptions-eliminated beggar cannot behave with the purpose of cutting off breathing life.

A corruptions-eliminated beggar cannot behave such as to take by theft what is not given.

A corruptions-eliminated beggar cannot behave such as to engage in things related to copulation. A corruptions-eliminated beggar cannot behave such as to knowingly tell a lie.

A corruptions-eliminated beggar cannot behave such as to store up for the pleasure of enjoyment in the same way as when earlier living in a house.

A corruptions-eliminated beggar cannot behave such as to act upon wishes.

A corruptions-eliminated beggar cannot behave such as to act upon repugnance.

A corruptions-eliminated beggar cannot behave such as to act stupidly.

A corruptions-eliminated beggar cannot behave such as to act in fear.'

Previously I have, and currently I say thus, Sutava.

The beggar who is arahant, corruptions eliminated, unoccupied, duty's doing done, load laid down, his own good gained, yokes to living thoroughly broken, highest answer-knowing free, cannot behave

in these nine manners of carrying on."

AN 9.7

There then Sajjha the Wanderer approached The Consummately Self-Awakened. and drew near.

Having drawn near he exchanged greetings together with The Consummately Self-Awakened.

Having exchanged greetings and shared friendly talk he took a seat to one side.

Seated to one side then, Sajjha the Wanderer said this to The Consummately Self-Awakened:

"There was once, Bhante, a time when The Consummately Self-Awakened, this very Rājagaha revisiting, Vulture Head.

There, Bhante,
I heard this from the mouth,
received this from the mouth of
The Consummately Self-Awakened:

'The beggar, Sajjha,
who is arahant,
corruptions eliminated,
unoccupied,
duty's doing done,
load laid down,
his own good gained,
yokes to living thoroughly broken,
highest answer-knowing free,
cannot behave
in these five
manners of carrying on:

A corruptions-eliminated beggar

cannot behave with the purpose of cutting off breathing life.

A corruptions-eliminated beggar cannot behave such as to take by theft what is not given.

A corruptions-eliminated beggar cannot behave such as to engage in things related to copulation.

A corruptions-eliminated beggar cannot behave such as to knowingly tell a lie.

A corruptions-eliminated beggar cannot behave such as to store up for the pleasure of enjoyment in the same way as when earlier living in a house.'

I hope, bhante,
I well-heard,
well-grasped,
well-meditated on,
well set up
what The Consummately Self-Awakened said?"

"That you have, Sutava!

That you have well-heard well-grasped well-meditated on well set up!

Previously I have, and currently I say thus, Sajjha:

'The beggar who is arahant, corruptions eliminated,

unoccupied,
duty's doing done,
load laid down,
his own good gained,
yokes to living thoroughly broken,
highest answer-knowing free,
cannot behave
in these nine
manners of carrying on.

A corruptions-eliminated beggar cannot behave with the purpose of cutting off breathing life.

A corruptions-eliminated beggar cannot behave such as to take by theft what is not given.

A corruptions-eliminated beggar cannot behave such as to engage in things related to copulation.

A corruptions-eliminated beggar cannot behave such as to knowingly tell a lie.

A corruptions-eliminated beggar cannot behave such as to store up for the pleasure of enjoyment in the same way as when earlier living in a house.

A corruptions-eliminated beggar cannot behave such as to act upon wishes.

A corruptions-eliminated beggar cannot behave such as to act

stupidly.

A corruptions-eliminated beggar cannot behave such as to act in fear.'

Previously I have, and currently I say thus, Sajjha.

The beggar who is arahant, corruptions eliminated, unoccupied, duty's doing done, load laid down, his own good gained, yokes to living thoroughly broken, highest answer-knowing free, cannot behave in these nine manners of carrying on."

AN 9.8

Once Upon a Time, The Consummately Self-Awakened, Sāvatthī-town revisiting.

There, to the Beggars gathered round, he said:

"Beggars!"

And the beggars responding:

"Venerable!"

The Consummately Self-Awakened said:

"Nine, beggars, are men found to exist in the world.

What nine?

Arahants, those reaching for arahantship;

non-returners, those reaching for the experience of non-returning; once-returners, those reaching for the experience of once-returning; stream-winners,

those reaching for the experience of stream-winning;

commoners.

These then, beggars are the nine men found to exist in the world."

AN 9.9

Once upon a time, The Consummately Self-Awakened, Sāvatthi-town revisiting, Anāthapiṇḍika's Pleasure Grove.

There then, the Venerable Sāriputta, having arisen earlier, taking up bowl and robes entered Sāvatthi on his begging round.

But then the Venerable Sāriputta said to himself:

"It's too early now to go around in Sāvatthi for handouts, how about if I visit the park of wanderers of other views?"

Then the Venerable Sāriputta approached the park of the wanderers of other views.

Having approached the wanderers of other views, he exchanged greetings and shared friendly talk and took a seat to one side.

Meanwhile this was the topic of the talk

the wanderers of other views had been sharing amongst themselves:

"Is it always the case, friend,

that whoever still holds on, on serving their time, is not absolutely safe from Niraya, not absolutely safe from animal birth, not absolutely safe from the ghostly garb, not absolutely safe from the abyss, going bad, and ruin?"

Then the venerable Sāriputta spoke neither approval nor belittlement of the wanderers of other views but rising from his seat departed, without approving without belittling, thinking:

"I will get my understanding of this talk in the presence of The Consummately Self-Awakened."

Then the Venerable Sāriputta, after entering Sāvatthi and making his begging rounds, having returned from his food-gathering and eaten his meal, approached The Consummately Self-Awakened and drew near.

Having drawn near The Consummately Self-Awakened and exchanged greetings, he took a seat to one side.

Seated to one side, then, the Venerable Sāriputta said this to The Consummately Self-Awakened.:

"I, bhante, having arisen earlier, taking up bowl and robes, entered Sāvatthi on my begging round.

But then I said to myself:

'It's too early now
to go around in Sāvatthi
to beg
how about if I visit
the park
of wanderers of other views?'

Then I approached the park of the wanderers of other views.

Having approached the wanderers of other views, I exchanged greetings and shared friendly talk and took a seat to one side.

Meanwhile this was the topic of the talk the wanderers of other views had been sharing amongst themselves:

'Is it always the case, friend, that whoever still holds on, on serving their time, is not absolutely safe from Niraya, not absolutely safe from animal birth, not absolutely safe from the ghostly garb, not absolutely safe from

the abyss,

going bad, and ruin?'

Then I spoke neither approval nor belittlement of the wanderers of other views but rising from my seat departed, without approving without belittling, thinking:

'I will get my understanding of this talk in the presence of The Consummately Self-Awakened.'''

"Some wanderers of other views, Sariputta, are fools who cannot tell, but some will know of one with holding-on 'he holds-on,' and will know of one without holding-on 'he is without holding-on'.

'Nine, Sāriputta, are the persons that dying while still holding-on, are absolutely safe from

Niraya,
absolutely safe from
animal birth,
absolutely safe from
the ghostly garb,
absolutely safe from
the abyss,
going bad and
ruin.'

What nine?

Here Sāriputta, some person has brought ethical culture to fulfillment, has brought serenity to fulfillment, but has not brought wisdom to fulfillment.

Thoroughly breaking the five yokes to lower rebirths he becomes midway-thoroughly-cool.

This is, Sāriputta,

the first person
that dying
while still holding-on,
is absolutely safe from
Niraya,
absolutely safe from
animal birth,
absolutely safe from
the ghostly garb,
absolutely safe from
the abyss,
going bad
and ruin.

Again Sāriputta, and further than that, here some person has brought ethical culture to fulfillment, has brought serenity to fulfillment, but has not brought wisdom to fulfillment.

Thoroughly breaking the five yokes to lower rebirths he becomes stopped-foreshortened-thoroughly-cool.

that dying
while still holding-on,
is absolutely safe from
Niraya,
absolutely safe from
animal birth,
absolutely safe from
the ghostly garb,
absolutely safe from
the abyss,

going bad and

ruin.

This is, Sāriputta, the second person

Again Sāriputta, and further than that, here some person has brought ethical culture to fulfillment, has brought serenity to fulfillment, but has not brought wisdom to fulfillment.

Thoroughly breaking the five yokes to lower rebirths he becomes without-own-making-thoroughly-cool.

This is, Sāriputta, the third person that dying while still holding-on, is absolutely safe from *Niraya*, absolutely safe from

animal birth, absolutely safe from the ghostly garb, absolutely safe from the abyss, going bad and ruin.

Again Sāriputta, and further than that, here some person has brought ethical culture to fulfillment, has brought serenity to fulfillment, but has not brought wisdom to fulfillment.

Thoroughly breaking the five yokes to lower rebirths he becomes with-own-making-thoroughly-cool.

This is, Sāriputta, the fourth person that dying while still holding-on, is absolutely safe from Niraya,

absolutely safe from animal birth, absolutely safe from the ghostly garb, absolutely safe from the abyss, going bad and

Again Sāriputta,

ruin.

and further than that, here some person has brought ethical culture to fulfillment, has brought serenity to fulfillment, but has not brought wisdom to fulfillment.

Thoroughly breaking the five yokes to lower rebirths he goes upstream to Akaniţţha.

This is, Sāriputta, the fifth person that dying while still holding-on, is absolutely safe from Niraya, absolutely safe from animal birth, absolutely safe from the ghostly garb, absolutely safe from the abyss, going bad and ruin.

Again Sāriputta, and further than that, here some person has brought ethical culture to fulfillment, but has not brought serenity to fulfillment, and

has not brought wisdom to fulfillment.

Thoroughly breaking the three yokes-to-rebirth diminishing lust, anger and stupidity, he becomes a once-more-goer — coming only once more to this world he makes an end of pain.

This is, Sāriputta, the sixth person that dying while still holding-on, is absolutely safe from Niraya, absolutely safe from animal birth, absolutely safe from the ghostly garb, absolutely safe from the abyss,

Again Sāriputta, and further than that, here some person has brought ethical culture to fulfillment, but has not brought serenity to fulfillment, and has not brought wisdom

going bad and

ruin.

to fulfillment.

Thoroughly breaking
the three
yokes-to-rebirth
he becomes a one-seeder —
just once reappearing
among men
he makes an end of pain.

This is, Sāriputta, the seventh person that dying while still holding-on, is absolutely safe from Niraya, absolutely safe from animal birth, absolutely safe from the ghostly garb, absolutely safe from the abyss, going bad and ruin.

Again Sāriputta, and further than that, here some person has brought ethical culture to fulfillment, has a measure of serenity, and has a measure of wisdom.

Thoroughly breaking the three yokes-to-rebirth he becomes a clan-to-claner two or three times transmigrating around in good families he makes an end of pain.

This is, Sāriputta, the eighth person that dying while still holding-on, is absolutely safe from Niraya, absolutely safe from animal birth, absolutely safe from the ghostly garb, absolutely safe from the abyss, going bad and ruin.

Again Sāriputta, and further than that, here some person has brought ethical culture to fulfillment, has a measure of serenity, and has a measure of wisdom.

Thoroughly breaking
the three
yokes-to-rebirth
he becomes a seven-more-at-moster
seven more times
at most
transmigrating around
as god or man
he makes and end to pain.

This is, Sāriputta, the ninth person that dying while still holding-on, is absolutely safe from Niraya,

absolutely safe from animal birth, absolutely safe from the ghostly garb, absolutely safe from the abyss, going bad and ruin.

Some wanderers of other views, Sariputta, are fools who cannot tell, but some will know of one with holding-on 'he holds-on,' and will know of one without holding-on 'he is without holding-on.'

These are, Sāriputta, the nine persons that dying while still holding-on, are absolutely safe from

Niraya,

absolutely safe from animal birth, absolutely safe from the ghostly garb, absolutely safe from the abyss, going bad and ruin.

AN 9.12

Once upon a time, The Consummately Self-Awakened, Sāvatthi-town revisiting, Anāthapiṇḍika's Jeta Pleasure Grove. There then the Venerable Mahā-Koṭṭhita approached the Venerable Sāriputta and drew near.

Having drawn near he exchanged greetings together with the Venerable Sāriputta.

Having exchanged greetings and shared friendly talk he took a seat to one side.

Seated to one side then, the Venerable Mahā-Koṭṭhita had this dialog with the Venerable Sāriputta:

"How now then, friend Sāriputta:

'Let kamma

to be experienced in this seen thing

be *kamma*

to be experienced in some future state.'

Is it aspiring to this that one leads the holy life under The Consummately Self-Awakened?"

'Let kamma

to be experienced in some future state

be *kamma*

to be experienced in this seen thing.'

Is it aspiring to this that one leads the holy life under The Consummately Self-Awakened?"

'Let kamma
to be experienced
as pleasant,
be kamma

[&]quot;Not for that, friend."

[&]quot;What then, friend Sāriputta:

[&]quot;Not for that, friend."

[&]quot;How now then, friend Sāriputta:

to be experienced as unpleasant.'

Is it aspiring to this that one leads the holy life under The Consummately Self-Awakened?"

"Not for that, friend."

"What then, friend Sāriputta:

'Let kamma
to be experienced
as unpleasant,
be kamma

to be experienced as pleasant.'

Is it aspiring to this that one leads the holy life under The Consummately Self-Awakened?"

"Not for that, friend."

"How now then, friend Sāriputta:

'Let kamma
that is to be experienced
as thoroughly ripe
be kamma
to be experienced as
not thoroughly ripe.'

Is it aspiring to this that one leads the holy life under The Consummately Self-Awakened?"

"Not for that, friend."

"What then, friend Sāriputta:

'Let kamma
to be experienced
as not thoroughly ripe
be kamma
to be experienced
as thoroughly ripe.'

Is it aspiring to this that one leads the holy life under The Consummately Self-Awakened?"

"Not for that, friend."

"How now then, friend Sāriputta:

'Let kamma

that is to be experienced

as a big thing

be *kamma*

to be experienced

as a little thing.'

Is it aspiring to this

that one leads the holy life

under The Consummately Self-Awakened?"

"Not for that, friend."

"What then, friend Sāriputta:

'Let kamma

that is to be experienced

as a little thing

be *kamma*

to be experienced

as a big thing.'

Is it aspiring to this

that one leads the holy life

under The Consummately Self-Awakened?"

"Not for that, friend."

"How now then, friend Sāriputta:

'Let kamma

to be experienced

be *kamma*

not to be experienced.'

Is it aspiring to this

that one leads the holy life

under The Consummately Self-Awakened?"

"Not for that, friend."

"What then, friend Sāriputta:

'Let kamma

not to be experienced

be *kamma*

to be experienced.'

Is it aspiring to this that one leads the holy life under The Consummately Self-Awakened?"

"Let kamma

to be experienced in this seen thing

be *kamma*

to be experienced in some future state."

Is it aspiring to this that one leads the holy life under The Consummately Self-Awakened?'

Such being asked, 'Not for that, friend' you have responded.

What then, friend Sāriputta:

""Let kamma

to be experienced

in some future state

be *kamma*

to be experienced

in this seen thing."

Is it aspiring to this

that one leads the holy life

under The Consummately Self-Awakened?'

Such being asked,

'Not for that, friend'

you have responded.

How now then, friend Sāriputta:

""Let kamma

to be experienced

as pleasant,

be kamma

to be experienced

as unpleasant."

Is it aspiring to this

[&]quot;Not for that, friend."

[&]quot;How now then, friend Sāriputta:

that one leads the holy life under The Consummately Self-Awakened?'

Such being asked, 'Not for that, friend' you have responded.

What then, friend Sāriputta:

"Let kamma

to be experienced as unpleasant,

be kamma

to be experienced

as pleasant."

Is it aspiring to this that one leads the holy life under The Consummately Self-Awakened?'

Such being asked, 'Not for that, friend' you have responded."

How now then, friend Sāriputta:

'''Let kamma

to be experienced as thoroughly ripe

be *kamma*

to be experienced as not thoroughly ripe."

Is it aspiring to this that one leads the holy life under The Consummately Self-Awakened?'

Such being asked,
'Not for that, friend'
you have responded."

What then, friend Sāriputta:

"Let kamma

to be experienced as not thoroughly ripe

be *kamma*

to be experienced as thoroughly ripe."

Is it aspiring to this that one leads the holy life under The Consummately Self-Awakened?'

Such being asked, 'Not for that, friend' you have responded.

How now then, friend Sāriputta:

"Let kamma

to be experienced as a big thing

be *kamma*

to be experienced as a little thing."

Is it aspiring to this that one leads the holy life under The Consummately Self-Awakened?'

Such being asked, 'Not for that, friend' you have responded.

What then, friend Sāriputta:

"Let kamma

to be experienced as a little thing

be *kamma*

to be experienced as a big thing."

Is it aspiring to this that one leads the holy life under The Consummately Self-Awakened?'

Such being asked, 'Not for that, friend' you have responded.

How now then, friend Sāriputta:

'''Let kamma

to be experienced

be *kamma*

not to be experienced."

Is it aspiring to this

that one leads the holy life under The Consummately Self-Awakened?'

Such being asked, 'Not for that, friend' you have responded.

What then, friend Sāriputta:

""Let kamma

not to be experienced

be *kamma*

to be experienced."

Is it aspiring to this that one leads the holy life under The Consummately Self-Awakened?'

Such being asked, 'Not for that, friend' you have responded.

But to what then, friend, does one aspire in leading the holy life under The Consummately Self-Awakened?"

"Of that, friend,

which is

unknown,

unseen,

unattained,

unrealized,

unmastered,

it is for the knowing,

seeing,

attaining,

realizing,

mastering of that

for which the holy life

under The Consummately Self-Awakened

is lead."

What then, friend, is that which is unknown,

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unseen,
unattained,
unrealized,
unmastered,
for the knowing,
seeing,
attaining,
realizing,
mastering of which
the holy life
under The Consummately Self-Awakened
is lead?
'This is Pain,'
This, friend, is that which is
unknown,
unseen,
unattained,
unrealized,
unmastered.
It is for the knowing,
seeing,
attaining,
realizing,
mastering of this
that the holy life
under The Consummately Self-Awakened
is lead.
'This is the source
of pain.'
This, friend,
is that which is
unknown,
unseen,
unattained,
unrealized,
unmastered.
It is for the knowing,
seeing,
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attaining,

realizing,
mastering of this
that the holy life
under The Consummately Self-Awakened
is lead.

'This is the eradication of pain.'

This, friend, is that which is unknown, unseen, unattained, unrealized, unmastered.

It is for the knowing, seeing, attaining, realizing, mastering of this that the holy life under The Consummately Self-Awakened is lead.

'This is the walk to walk to go to the end of pain.'

This, friend, is that which is unknown, unseen, unattained, unrealized, unmastered.

It is for the knowing, seeing, attaining, realizing, mastering of this that the holy life under The Consummately Self-Awakened is lead.

This, friend,
is that which is
unknown,
unseen,
unattained,
unrealized,
unmastered,
for the knowing,
seeing,
attaining,
realizing,
mastering of which
the holy life
under The Consummately Self-Awakened
is lead."

AN 9.13

Once upon a time, The Consummately Self-Awakened, Sāvatthi-town revisiting.

There then the Ancient Samiddhi approached the Ancient Sāriputto and drew near.

Having drawn near he exchanged greetings together with the Ancient Sāriputto.

Having exchanged greetings and shared friendly talk he took a seat to one side.

Then, seated together there, the Ancient Sāriputto said this to the Ancient Samiddhi:

"What basis is there, Samiddhi, for the coming of principled-thinkings to a man?"

"Named form is the basis, bhante."

"But then, Samiddhi,

from whence get they diversity?"

"Through data, bhante."

"But then, Samiddhi, what is their origin?"

"They originate with touch, bhante."

"But then, Samiddhi, to what are they joined?"

"They are joined to sensation, bhante."

"But then, Samiddhi, what is at their interface?"

"Serenity is at their interface, bhante."

"But then, Samiddhi, what rules them?"

"Mind rules them, bhante."

"But then, Samiddhi, what is their uttermost?"

"Wisdom is their uttermost, bhante."

"But then, Samiddhi, what is their essence?"

"Freedom is their essence, bhante."

"But then, Samiddhi, what is their culmination?"

"They culminate in the deathless, bhante."

"What basis is there, Samiddhi, for the coming of principled-thinkings to a man?"

It is this you were asked.

'Named form is the basis, *bhante*.' was what you said.

'But then, Samiddhi, from whence get they diversity?'

It is this you were asked.

'Through data, bhante' was what you said.

'But then, Samiddhi, what is their origin?'

It is this you were asked.

'They originate with touch, bhante' was what you said.

'But then, Samiddhi, to what are they joined?'

It is this you were asked.

'They are joined to sensation, bhante.' was what you said.

'But then, Samiddhi, what is at their interface?'

It is this you were asked.

'Serenity is at their interface, bhante' was what you said.

'But then, Samiddhi, what rules them?'

It is this you were asked.

'Mind rules them, bhante' was what you said.

'But then, Samiddhi, what is their uttermost?'

It is this you were asked.

'Wisdom is their uttermost, bhante' was what you said.

'But then, Samiddhi, what is their essence?'

It is this you were asked.

'Freedom is their essence, bhante' was what you said.

'But then, Samiddhi, what is their culmination?'

It is this you were asked.

'They culminate in the deathless, bhante' was what you said.

Well done!

Well done, Samiddhi!

Well indeed, Samiddhi, have you answered the questions asked!

But don't let it go to your head!"

AN 9.14

There, to the beggars gathered round, The Consummately Self-Awakened said this:

"There are these nine perceptions, beggars, which, made a big thing of, have great fruit are of great advantage; lead on to the deathless, culminate in the deathless.

What nine?

Perception of the ugly, perception of death, perception of the revolting nature of food, perception of non-indulgence in all worlds, perception of change, perception of pain in change, perception of not-self in the painful, perception of letting go, perception of dispassion.

These are those nine

perceptions, beggars, which, made a big thing of, have great fruit are of great advantage; lead on to the deathless, culminate in the deathless."

AN 9.16

Once upon a time The Consummately Self-Awakened, Sāvatthi-town residing,

Jeta Grove,

Anāthapindika's Park.

There then he addressed the beggars:

"Beggars!"

"Bhante!" the beggars responded.

The Consummately Self-Awakened said this:

"Nine, beggars, follow from earlier-endings.

What nine?

From the ending of sensual-perception, the first knowing commences.

From the ending of thinking and pondering, the second knowing commences.

From the ending of enthusiasm, the third knowing commences.

From the ending of exhalation and inhalation the fourth knowing commences.

From the ending of perception of form the Sphere of Space commences.

From the ending of the Sphere of Space, the Sphere of Consciousness commences.

From the ending of the Sphere of Consciousness the Sphere of Nothing's To Be Had Here commences.

From the ending of the Sphere of Nothing's To Be Had Here the Sphere of Neither-Perception-nor-Non-perception commences.

From the ending of the Sphere of Neither-Perception-nor-Non-perception the sphere of the ending of perception of sense-experience commences.

These then, beggars, are the nine that follow from earlier-endings."

AN 9.31

Once upon a time The Ancient Ānanda, Kosambī revisiting, Ghosita park.

There then, The Ancient Ānanda said this to the beggars:

"Friends, Beggars!"

Then, "Friend!" said the beggars to The Ancient Ānanda in response.

The Ancient Ānanda said this:



"How snappy, friends!
How striking, friends!
That is,
in so far as that
The Consummately SelfAwakened,
knower,
seer,
arahant,
highest-self-awakened one,
awoke to this excellent

opportunity for

beings to get away from their ensnarement, overcome grief and lamentation, dissolve pain and misery, master the method for seeing Nibbāna for one's self,

where eye
will be such that
of the sphere of forms
there will be no
resultant
personal experience;

where ear will be such that of the sphere of sounds there will be no resultant personal experience;

where nose
will be such that
of the sphere of scents
there will be no
resultant
personal experience;

where tongue will be such that of the sphere of tastes there will be no resultant personal experience;

where body will be such that of the sphere of touches there will be no resultant personal experience."

This said,
The Ancient Udayi said this
to the Ancient Ānanda:

"Is there perceiving, then, friend Ānanda, in a sphere where there is no resultant personal experience, or is there no perceiving?"

"There is perceiving, friend, in a sphere where there is no resultant personal experience, not no perceiving."

"What perceiving is there then, friend, in a sphere where there is no resultant personal experience?"

"Here, friend, a beggar rising above all perception of forms, putting away perception of reaction, not attending in mind to perception of diversity, thinking, 'Endless space' arises in and inhabits the Sphere of Space.

Thus then, friend, there is perceiving but of that sphere there is no resultant personal experience.

Again,
deeper than that, friend,
a beggar,
rising above
the whole
Sphere of Space,
thinking,
'Endless consciousness'
arises in and
inhabits
the Sphere of Consciousness.

Thus then, friend, there is perceiving but of that sphere there is no resultant personal experience.

Again,
deeper than that, friend,
a beggar,
rising above
the whole Sphere of Consciousness,
thinking,
'There is nothing to be had here'
arises in and
inhabits
the Sphere Where Nothing's to be Had.

Thus then, friend, there is perceiving but of that sphere there is no resultant personal experience. Once upon a time, friends, I was Sakate-land residing, Deer Park, Anjana Forest.

There then, friends, Jatilagahiya bhikkhuni approached and drew near.

Having drawn near she gave greeting and stood to one side:

Standing to one side, then, friends, the *bhikkhuni* Jatilagahiya said this to me:

'That serenity,
bhante Ānanda,
which is not bent on
nor bent away,
not with own-made-restraint
held in restraint,
on its freedom standing,
on its stand content,
on its contentment unafraid,
of this serenity,
bhante Ānanda,
what is the fruit
spoken of by The Consummately Self-Awakened?'

When, friends, the bhikkhuni Jatilagahiya had thus spoken, I said this:

'That serenity, sister,
which is not bent on
nor bent away,
not with own-made-restraint
held in restraint,
on its freedom standing,
on its stand content,
on its contentment unafraid,

of this serenity, sister, answer-knowing omnicience is the fruit spoken of by The Consummately Self-Awakened.'

Thus then, friends, there is perceiving but of that sphere there is no resultant personal experience."

AN 9.37

Once upon a time The Consummately Self-Awakened, revisiting Malla-land, the market-town named Sandy-bank-propper.

There then The Consummately Self-Awakened, having arisen previously, taking bowl and robes, entered Uruvelakappa on his begging round.

Having gone his rounds in Sandy-bank-propper, having eaten and returned, he addressed elder Ānanda saying:

"Stay right here, Ānanda, while I abide plunging into Great Woods for the afternoon sitting."

"Even so, bhante," responded Ānanda to The Consummately Self-Awakened.

There then The Consummately Self-Awakened plunged into Great Woods, to abide the day sitting at the root of a certain tree.

There then Tapusso, the housefather,

approached elder Ānanda and drew near.

Having drawn near elder Ānanda and exchanged greetings, he took a seat to one side.

Seated to one side then, Tapusso, the householder, addressed elder Ānanda saying this to him:

"We householders, venerable Ānanda, amass sensual pleasures, find joy in sensual pleasures, are intent on sensual pleasures, delight in sensual pleasures.

To us householders, venerable, amassing sensual pleasures, finding joy in sensual pleasures, intent on sensual pleasures, delighting in sensual pleasures, this appears like a cliff, that is to say: abandoning.

I have heard this, bhante:

'In this Dhamma-Vinaya, young, very young bhikkhus hearts leap up, brighten up,

stand independent, freed, seeing:

"This is tranquility".

Surely here, bhante, with this Dhamma-Vinaya, bhikkhus are differentiated from the great mass of people that is to say in the matter of abandoning."

"Now this, householder, is a talk we should see The Consummately Self-Awakened about.

Let us draw near and approaching The Consummately Self-Awakened relate this matter to him.

However The Consummately Self-Awakened explains it, that is how we should bear it in mind."

"Even so bhante!" said Tapusso, the householder to Ānanda in response.

There then the elder Ānanda together with Tapussa, the householder, drew near The Consummately Self-Awakened.

Drawing near and giving salutation, they took seats to one side.

Seated to one side then, Ānanda said this to The Consummately Self-Awakened:

"Just now, bhante,

Tapusso, the Householder, said this to me:

'We householders, venerable Ānanda, amass

sensual pleasures, find joy in sensual pleasures, are intent on sensual pleasures, delight in sensual pleasures.

To us householders, venerable, amassing sensual pleasures, finding joy in sensual pleasures, intent on sensual pleasures, delighting in sensual pleasures, this appears like a cliff, that is to say: abandoning.

I have heard this, bhante:

"In this Dhamma-Vinaya, young, very young bhikkhus hearts leap up, brighten up, stand independent, freed, seeing:

'This is tranquility'".

Surely here, bhante, with this Dhamma-Vinaya, bhikkhus are differentiated from the great mass of people that is to say in the matter of abandoning.'''

"So it is, Ānanda!

So it is!

Even I, Ānanda, before my self-awakening, self-awakening not yet acchieved, still just an awakening being, thinking to myself:

'It is a good thing, this abandoning.'

Yet my heart, Ānanda,

at this abandoning, did not leap up, did not become clear, did not find self-assurance, did not find freedom, seeing 'This is tranquillity.'

Then, Ānanda,
I thinking to myself:

'What is the driving force, what is it that results in my heart not leaping up, not existence clear, not finding self-assurance, not finding freedom seeing "This is tranquillity"?

Then, Ānanda, I thinking to myself:

'I have not seen
the disadvantage of
sensuality, and
thus have not made
a big thing of that,
the advantage of
abandoning
has not been achieved and
thus has not been
appreciated.

That is why my heart, does not leap up, does not become clear, does not find self-assurance, does not find freedom in this abandoning, seeing
"This is tranquillity."

Then, Ānanda,

I thinking to myself:

'Suppose then
I examine the disadvantages of sensuality
make a big thing of that, achieving the advantage of abandoning,
I would to appreciate it.

In that way
my heart,
should leap up,
should become clear,
should find self-assurance,
should find freedom,
in this abandoning,
seeing
"This is tranquillity.""

Then, Ānanda, after a time, isolating myself from sense pleasures, isolating myself from unskillful things, with thinking, with re-examination isolation-born pleasureable-enthusiasm I entered into and abode in the first knowing.

Then, Ānanda, after a time, examining the disadvantages of sensuality, making a big thing of that, achieving the advantage of abandoning, appreciating that, my heart leaped up,

became clear, found self-assurance, found freedom, in this abandoning, seeing 'This is tranquillity.'

Then, Ānanda, after a time, isolated from sensuality, isolating myself from unskillful things, with thinking, with re-examination, appreciation of the peace born of solitude, gave rise to inhabiting the first knowing.

And, Ānanda, as I inhabited this habitat, perceptions and mental studies accompanying sensuality arose in me, and this was for me, affliction.

In the same way, Ānanda, as for some happy person, should some pain arise, it would be an affliction, even so, for me as I inhabited this habitat, perceptions and mental studies accompanying sensuality arose in me, and

this was for me, affliction.

Then, Ānanda,
I thinking to myself:

'It is a good thing,
this being distant from
sensuality,
being distant from
unskillful things,
yet my heart,
at this being distant from
sensuality,
this being distant from
unskillful things,
did not leap up,
did not become clear,
did not find self-assurance,
did not find freedom,
seeing

"This is tranquillity."

Then, Ānanda,
I thinking to myself:

'What is the driving force, what is it that results in my heart not leaping up, not existence clear, not finding self-assurance, not finding freedom seeing ''This is tranquillity''?'

Then, Ānanda,
I thinking to myself:

'I have not seen the disadvantage of sensuality, and thus have not made a big thing of that, the advantage of abandoning has not been achieved and thus has not been appreciated.

That is why my heart, does not leap up, does not become clear, does not find self-assurance, does not find freedom, in this abandoning, seeing "This is tranquillity."

Then, Ānanda,
I thinking to myself:

'Suppose then
I examine the
disadvantages of
sensuality
make a big thing of that,
achieving the advantage of
abandoning,
I would to appreciate it.

In that way
my heart,
should leap up,
should become clear,
should find self-assurance,
should find freedom,
in this abandoning,
seeing
"This is tranquillity.""

Then, Ānanda, after a time, examining the disadvantages of sensuality, making a big thing of that, achieving the advantage of abandoning, appreciating that, my heart leaped up, became clear, found self-assurance, found freedom, in this abandoning, seeing 'This is tranquillity.'

Then, Ānanda, after a time, resolving thinking and re-examination internally self-possessed whole-heartedly single-minded without thinking without re-examination appreciation of the peace born of serenity gave rise to inhabiting the second knowing.

And, Ānanda, as I inhabited this habitat, perceptions and mental studies accompanying thinking arose in me, and this was for me, affliction.

In the same way, Ānanda, as for some happy person, should some pain arise, it would be an affliction, even so, for me as I inhabited this habitat, perceptions and

mental studies accompanying thinking arose in me, and this was for me, affliction.

Then, Ānanda,
I thinking to myself:

'It is a good thing,
this resolving of thinking,
yet my heart,
at this resolving of thinking
did not leap up,
did not become clear,
did not find self-assurance,
did not find freedom,
seeing
''This is tranquillity.'''

Then, Ānanda,
I thinking to myself:

'What is the driving force, what is it that results in my heart not leaping up, not existence clear, not finding self-assurance, not finding freedom seeing
''This is tranquillity''?'

Then, Ānanda,
I thinking to myself:

'I have not seen the disadvantage of thinking, and thus have not made a big thing of that, the advantage of resolving thinking has not been achieved and thus has not been appreciated.

That is why my heart, does not leap up, does not become clear, does not find self-assurance, does not find freedom, in this abandoning, seeing "This is tranquillity."

Then, Ānanda,
I thinking to myself:

'Suppose then I examine the disadvantages of thinking make a big thing of that, achieving the advantage of resolving thinking, I would to appreciate it.

In that way
my heart,
should leap up,
should become clear,
should find self-assurance,
should find freedom,
in this resolving of thinking,
seeing

"This is tranquillity."

Then, Ānanda, after a time, examining the disadvantages of thinking, making a big thing of that, achieving the advantage of resolving thinking, appreciating that, my heart leaped up, became clear, found self-assurance, found freedom, in this abandoning, seeing

'This is tranquillity.'

Then, Ānanda,
I thinking to myself:

'How about if I, without desire for ease, living detached, recollected and self-possessed, experiencing for myself that bodily pleasure of which the Aristocrats say:

"Recollected, detached - that's a sweet life!"

rise up into and inhabit the third knowing?'

And, Ānanda, as I inhabited this habitat, perceptions and mental studies accompanying desire for ease arose in me, and this was for me, affliction.

In the same way, Ānanda, as for some happy person, should some pain arise, it would be an affliction, even so, for me as I inhabited this habitat, perceptions and mental studies accompanying desire for ease arose in me, and this was for me, affliction.

Then, Ānanda,

I thinking to myself:

'It is a good thing,
this being without
desire for ease,
yet my heart,
at this being without desire for
ease
did not leap up,
did not become clear,
did not find self-assurance,
did not find freedom,
seeing
''This is tranquillity.'''

Then, Ānanda,
I thinking to myself:

'What is the driving force, what is it that results in my heart not leaping up, not existence clear, not finding self-assurance, not finding freedom seeing ''This is tranquillity''?'

Then, Ānanda,
I thinking to myself:

'I have not seen
the disadvantage of
the pleasures of
detachment, and
thus have not made
a big thing of that,
the advantage of
being without desire for
ease
has not been achieved and
thus has not been
appreciated.

That is why
my heart,
does not leap up,
does not become clear,
does not find self-assurance,
does not find freedom,
in this being without desire for
ease,
seeing
"This is tranquillity.""

Then, Ānanda,

I thinking to myself:

'Suppose then
I examine the disadvantages of
pleasures of detachment
make a big thing of that,
achieving the advantage of
being without desire for
ease,

I would to appreciate it.

In that way
my heart,
should leap up,
should become clear,
should find self-assurance,
should find freedom,
in this being without desire for
ease,
seeing
"This is tranquillity.""

Then, Ānanda, after a time, examining the disadvantages of pleasures of detachment, making a big thing of that, achieving the advantage of being without desire for ease, appreciating that,

my heart
leaped up,
became clear,
found self-assurance,
found freedom,
in this being without desire for
ease,
seeing
"This is tranquillity.""

Then, Ānanda,

I thinking to myself:
'How about if I

'How about if I,
letting go of pleasures,
letting go of pains,
settling down
the preceding
mental ease and mental pain,
being without
pain and pleasure,
detached,
recollected,
surpassingly pure
rise up into and
inhabit
the fourth knowing?'

And, Ānanda, as I inhabited this habitat, perceptions and mental studies accompanying detachment arose in me, and this was for me, affliction.

In the same way, Ānanda, as for some happy person, should some pain arise, it would be an affliction, even so, for me

as I inhabited this habitat, perceptions and mental studies accompanying detachment arose in me, and this was for me, affliction.

Then, Ānanda,
I thinking to myself:

'It is a good thing,
this being without
pain and pleasure,
yet my heart,
at this being without
pain and pleasure
did not leap up,
did not become clear,
did not find self-assurance,
did not find freedom,
seeing
''This is tranquillity.'''

Then, Ānanda,
I thinking to myself:

'What is the driving force, what is it that results in my heart not leaping up, not existence clear, not finding self-assurance, not finding freedom seeing ''This is tranquillity''?'

Then, Ānanda, I thinking to myself:

'I have not seen the disadvantages of the pleasures of detachment, and thus have not made a big thing of that, the advantages of being without pain and pleasure has not been achieved and thus has not been appreciated.

That is why
my heart,
does not leap up,
does not become clear,
does not find self-assurance,
does not find freedom,
in this being without
pain and pleasure,
seeing
"This is tranquillity.""

Then, Ānanda, I thinking to myself:

'Suppose then
I examine the disadvantages
accompanying detachment
make a big thing of that,
achieving the advantages of
being without
pain and pleasure,
I would appreciate it.

In that way
my heart,
should leap up,
should become clear,
should find self-assurance,
should find freedom,
in this being without
pain and pleasure,
seeing
"This is tranquillity.""

Then, Ānanda, after a time,

examining the disadvantages of the pleasures of detachment, making a big thing of that, achieving the advantage of being without pain and pleasure, appreciating that, my heart leaped up, became clear, found self-assurance, found freedom, in this being without pain and pleasure, seeing 'This is tranquillity.'

Then, Ānanda,
I thinking to myself:

The Sphere of Space?

'How about if I,
passing beyond
all perception of form
settling down perception of
difference,
thinking:
"Endless Space!"
were to rise up into and inhabit

And, Ānanda, as I inhabited this habitat, perceptions and mental studies accompanying perception of forms arose in me, and this was for me, affliction.

In the same way, Ānanda, as for some happy person, should some pain arise, it would be an affliction,

even so,
for me
as I inhabited this habitat,
perceptions and mental studies
accompanying perception of
forms
arose in me, and
this was for me,
affliction.

Then, Ānanda,
I thinking to myself:

'It is a good thing,
this being without
perception of forms,
yet my heart,
at this being without
perception of forms
did not leap up,
did not become clear,
did not find self-assurance,
did not find freedom,
seeing
"This is tranquillity."

Then, Ānanda,
I thinking to myself:

'What is the driving force, what is it that results in my heart not leaping up, not existence clear, not finding self-assurance, not finding freedom seeing

"This is tranquillity"?"

Then, Ānanda, I thinking to myself:

'I have not seen the disadvantage of the perception of forms, and thus have not made a big thing of that, the advantage of being without perception of forms has not been achieved and thus has not been appreciated.

That is why my heart, does not leap up, does not become clear, does not find self-assurance, does not find freedom, in this being without perception of shapes, seeing
"This is tranquillity."

Then, Ānanda,
I thinking to myself:

'Suppose then I examine
the disadvantages of
perception of forms
make a big thing of that,
achieving the advantage of
being without
perception of forms,
I would appreciate it.

In that way
my heart,
should leap up,
should become clear,
should find self-assurance,
should find freedom,
in this being without
perception of forms,
seeing
"This is tranquillity.""

Then, Ānanda, after a time,

examining the disadvantages of perception of formss, making a big thing of that, achieving the advantage of being without perception of forms, appreciating that, my heart leaped up, became clear, found self-assurance, found freedom, in this being without perception of forms. seeing 'This is tranquillity.'

Then, Ānanda,
I thinking to myself:

'How about if I, settling down the whole of the Sphere of Space, thinking:

"Endless Consciousness!" were to rise up into and inhabit The Sphere of Consciousness?

And, Ānanda, as I inhabited this habitat, perceptions and mental studies accompanying perception of the Sphere of Space arose in me, and this was for me, affliction.

In the same way, Ānanda, as for some happy person, should some pain arise, it would be an affliction, even so, for me

as I inhabited this habitat, perceptions and mental studies accompanying perception of the Sphere of Space arose in me, and this was for me, affliction.

Then, Ānanda,
I thinking to myself:

'It is a good thing,
this being without perception of
the Sphere of Space,
yet my heart,
at this being without perception of
the Sphere of Space
did not leap up,
did not become clear,
did not find self-assurance,
did not find freedom,
seeing
"This is tranquillity.""

Then, Ānanda,
I thinking to myself:

'What is the driving force, what is it that results in my heart not leaping up, not existence clear, not finding self-assurance, not finding freedom seeing "This is tranquillity"?'

Then, Ānanda,
I thinking to myself:

'I have not seen the disadvantage of the perception of the Sphere of Space, and thus have not made a big thing of that, the advantage of being without perception of the Sphere of Space has not been achieved and thus has not been appreciated.

That is why
my heart,
does not leap up,
does not become clear,
does not find self-assurance,
does not find freedom,
in this being without perception of
the Sphere of Space,
seeing
"This is tranquillity.""

Then, Ānanda,
I thinking to myself:

'Suppose then
I examine the disadvantages of
perception of the Sphere of Space
make a big thing of that,
achieving the advantage of
being without perception of
the Sphere of Space,
I would appreciate it.

In that way
my heart,
should leap up,
should become clear,
should find self-assurance,
should find freedom,
in this being
without perception of
the Sphere of Space,
seeing
"This is tranquillity.""

Then, Ānanda,

after a time, examining the disadvantages of perception of the Sphere of Space, making a big thing of that, achieving the advantage of being without perception of the Sphere of Space, appreciating that, my heart leaped up, became clear, found self-assurance, found freedom, in this being without perception of the Sphere of Space, seeing 'This is tranquillity.'

"This is tranquillity."

Then, Ānanda,
I thinking to myself:

'How about if I, settling down the whole of the Sphere of Consciousness, thinking:

"There is Nothing to be Had Here" rise up into and inhabit
The Sphere Where Nothing Is to be Had?

And, Ānanda, as I inhabited this habitat, perceptions and mental studies accompanying perception of the Sphere of Consciousness arose in me, and this was for me, affliction.

In the same way, Ānanda, as for some happy person, should some pain arise, it would be an affliction, even so,

for me as I inhabited this habitat, perceptions and mental studies accompanying perception of the Sphere of Consciousness arose in me, and this was for me, affliction.

Then, Ananda, I thinking to myself:

'It is a good thing, this being without perception of the Sphere of Consciousness, yet my heart, at this being without perception of the Sphere of Consciousness did not leap up, did not become clear, did not find self-assurance, did not find freedom, seeing "This is tranquillity."

Then, Ananda, I thinking to myself:

'What is the driving force, what is it that results in my heart not leaping up, not existence clear, not finding self-assurance, not finding freedom seeing

"This is tranquillity"?"

Then, Ānanda, I thinking to myself:

'I have not seen the disadvantage of the perception of
the Sphere of Consciousness, and
thus have not made
a big thing of that,
the advantage of
being without perception of
the Sphere of Consciousness
has not been achieved and
thus has not been
appreciated.

That is why
my heart,
does not leap up,
does not become clear,
does not find self-assurance,
does not find freedom,
in this being without perception of
the Sphere of Consciousness,
seeing
"This is tranquillity.""

Then, Ānanda,
I thinking to myself:

'Suppose then
I examine the disadvantages of perception of the Sphere of Consciousness make a big thing of that, achieving the advantage of being without perception of the Sphere of Consciousness, I would appreciate it.

In that way
my heart,
should leap up,
should become clear,
should find self-assurance,
should find freedom,
in this being without perception of
the Sphere of Consciousness,

seeing

"This is tranquillity."

Then, Ānanda, after a time,

examining the disadvantages of

perception of

the Sphere of Consciousness,

making a big thing of that,

achieving the advantage of

being without perception of

the Sphere of Consciousness,

appreciating that,

my heart leaped up,

became clear,

found self-assurance,

found freedom,

in this being without perception of

the Sphere of Consciousness,

seeing

'This is tranquillity.'

Then, Ānanda,

I thinking to myself:

'How about if I,

settling down

the whole of The Sphere Where Nothing Is to be Had,

rise up into and

inhabit

the Sphere Where There Is Neither-perception-nor-non-perception?

And, Ānanda,

as I inhabited this habitat,

perceptions and

mental studies

accompanying perception of

The Sphere Where Nothing Is to be Had

arose in me,

and this was for me,

affliction.

In the same way, Ānanda,

as for some happy person,

should some pain arise, it would be an affliction, even so, for me as I inhabited this habitat, perceptions and mental studies accompanying perception of The Sphere Where Nothing Is to be Had arose in me, and this was for me, affliction.

Then, Ānanda,
I thinking to myself:

'It is a good thing,
this being without perception of
The Sphere Where Nothing Is to be Had,
yet my heart,
at this being without perception of
The Sphere Where Nothing Is to be Had
did not leap up,
did not become clear,
did not find self-assurance,
did not find freedom,
seeing
"This is tranquillity.""

Then, Ānanda, I thinking to myself:

'What is the driving force, what is it that results in my heart not leaping up, not existence clear, not finding self-assurance, not finding freedom seeing "This is tranquillity"?'

Then, Ānanda,

I thinking to myself:

'I have not seen the disadvantage of the perception of The Sphere Where Nothing Is to be Had, and thus have not made a big thing of that, the advantage of being without perception of The Sphere Where Nothing Is to be Had has not been achieved and thus has not been appreciated.

That is why
my heart,
does not leap up,
does not become clear,
does not find self-assurance,
does not find freedom,
in this being without perception of
The Sphere Where Nothing Is to be Had,
seeing
"This is tranquillity."

Then, Ānanda,
I thinking to myself:

'Suppose then
I examine the disadvantages of
perception of
The Sphere Where Nothing Is to be Had
make a big thing of that,
achieving the advantage of
being without perception of
The Sphere Where Nothing Is to be Had,
I would appreciate it.

In that way
my heart,
should leap up,
should become clear,
should find self-assurance,
should find freedom,
in this being without perception of
The Sphere Where Nothing Is to be Had,

seeing

"This is tranquillity."

Then, Ānanda,

after a time,

examining the disadvantages of

perception of

The Sphere Where Nothing Is to be Had,

making a big thing of that,

achieving the advantage of

being without perception of

The Sphere Where Nothing Is to be Had,

appreciating that,

my heart

leaped up,

became clear,

found self-assurance.

found freedom,

in this being without perception of

The Sphere Where Nothing Is to be Had,

seeing

'This is tranquillity.'

Then, Ānanda,

I thinking to myself:

'How about if I,

settling down the whole of

the Sphere Where There Is Neither-perception-nor-non-perception,

were to rise up into and

inhabit

the Ending of Perception of Sense-experience?

And, Ānanda,

as I inhabited this habitat,

perceptions and

mental studies

accompanying perception of

the Sphere Where There Is Neither-perception-nor-non-perception

arose in me,

and this was for me,

affliction.

In the same way, Ananda,

as for some happy person,
should some pain arise,
it would be an affliction,
even so,
for me
as I inhabited this habitat,
perceptions and
mental studies
accompanying perception of
the Sphere Where There Is Neither-perception-nor-non-perception
arose in me, and
this was for me,
affliction.

Then, Ānanda,
I thinking to myself:

'It is a good thing,
this being without perception of
the Sphere Where There Is Neither-perception-nor-non-perception,
yet my heart,
at this being without perception of
the Sphere Where There Is Neither-perception-nor-non-perception
did not leap up,
did not become clear,
did not find self-assurance,
did not find freedom,
seeing
"This is tranquillity.""

Then, Ānanda, I thinking to myself:

'What is the driving force, what is it that results in my heart not leaping up, not existence clear, not finding self-assurance, not finding freedom seeing

"This is tranquillity"?"

Then, Ānanda,
I thinking to myself:

'I have not seen the disadvantage of

the perception of

the Sphere Where There Is Neither-perception-nor-non-perception, and

thus have not made

a big thing of that,

the advantage of

being without perception of

the Sphere Where There Is Neither-perception-nor-non-perception

has not been achieved and

thus has not been appreciated.

That is why

my heart,

does not leap up,

does not become clear,

does not find self-assurance,

does not find freedom,

in this being without perception of

the Sphere Where There Is Neither-perception-nor-non-perception, seeing

"This is tranquillity."

Then, Ānanda,

I thinking to myself:

'Suppose then

I examine the disadvantages of

perception of

the Sphere Where There Is Neither-perception-nor-non-perception

make a big thing of that,

achieving the advantage of

being without perception of

the Sphere Where There Is Neither-perception-nor-non-perception,

I would to appreciate it.

In that way

my heart,

should leap up,

should become clear,

should find self-assurance,

should find freedom,

in this being without perception of the Sphere Where There Is Neither-perception-nor-non-perception, seeing

"This is tranquillity."

Then, Ānanda,

after a time,

settling down the whole of

the Sphere Where There Is Neither-perception-nor-non-perception,

I rose up into and

inhabited

the Ending of Perception and Sense-experience and

with wisdom saw:

the corrupting influences

are thoroughly eradicated in me.

And as long, Ānanda,

as I had not

entered into and

emerged from

these nine following-upon-earlier-beginning-state attainments,

in both forward and

reverse order,

neither did I profess

in the world

with its gods,

with its Māras,

with its Brahma

with its Shamen and Brahmins

with its devas and humans

an unsurpasable

highest

self-awakening,

consummate

self-awakening.

But, Ānanda,

when I had

entered into and

emerged from

these nine 'following-upon-each-precurser'-state-attainments,

in both forward and

reverse order,
I did profess
in the world
with its gods,
with its Māras,
with its Brahma
with its Shamen and Brahmins
with its devas and humans
an unsurpasable
highest
self-awakening,
consummate
self-awakening.

And then, deeper than that, knowing and vision arose, and I knew:

'Unshakable is my heart's release! this is my final life

there is now no further existence.""

AN 9.41

Once upon a time The Ancient Ānanda, Kosambī revisiting, Ghosita park.

There then the venerable Udāyin visited the Ancient Ānanda, and, after exchanging greetings, sat down at one side.

Seated at one side, then, the venerable Udāyin said this to the Ancient Ānanda:

""Bodily realization, bodily realization' it is said, friend, to what extent then, friend, does The Consummately Self-Awakened speak of bodily realization?" "Here, friend,
in a bhikkhu
separating himself from
sense pleasures,
separating himself from
unskillful things,
with thinking and with re-examination,
with the appreciation of
the pleasure of solitude,
there arises and abides
the first knowing.

And whatsoever whatever is its sphere of influence, suchis suchas he habitually contacts with body.

To just this extent, bodily realization is spoken of by The Consummately Self-Awakened as 'encompassed.'

And again,
deeper than that, friend,
in a bhikkhu
resolving thinking and re-examination,
internally pacified,
whole-heartedly single-minded,
without thinking,
without re-examination,
with the appreciation of
the pleasure of serenity,
there arises and abides
the second knowing.

And whatsoever whatever is its sphere of influence, suchis suchas he habitually contacts with body.

To just this extent, bodily realization is spoken of by The Consummately Self-Awakened as 'encompassed.'

And again,
deeper than that, friend,
in a bhikkhu
living detached and
indifferent to enthusiasm
recollected and
self-aware,
experiencing that bodily ease
spoken of by the Aristocrat as:

'Detached, recollected, taking it easy.'

there arises and abides the third knowing.

And whatsoever whatever is its sphere of influence, suchis suchas he habitually contacts with body.

To just this extent, bodily realization is spoken of by The Consummately Self-Awakened as 'encompassed.'

And again,
deeper than that, friend,
in a bhikkhu
letting go of pleasure,
letting go of pain,
antecedent mental ease and
mental pain
settling down,

without pain but without pleasure, detached, recollected, all-around perfectly pure, there arises and abides the fourth knowing.

And whatsoever whatever is its sphere of influence, suchis suchas he habitually contacts with body.

To just this extent, bodily realization is spoken of by The Consummately Self-Awakened as 'encompassed.'

And again,
deeper than that, friend,
in a bhikkhu
raising himself
entirely above
form-perception,
settling down
sensory reaction,
not bringing to mind
perceptions of diversity,
thinking:

'Endless space'

there arises and abides the sphere of space.

And whatsoever whatever is its sphere of influence, suchis suchas he habitually contacts with body. To just this extent, bodily realization is spoken of by The Consummately Self-Awakened as 'encompassed.'

And again, deeper than that, friend, in a bhikkhu raising himself entirely above the sphere of space, thinking:

'Endless consciousness'

there arises and abides the sphere of consciousness.

And whatsoever whatever is its sphere of influence, suchis suchas he habitually contacts with body.

To just this extent, bodily realization is spoken of by The Consummately Self-Awakened as 'encompassed.'

And again,
deeper than that, friend,
in a bhikkhu
raising himself
entirely above
the sphere of consciousness,
thinking:

'There is nothing to be had here.'

there arises and abides the sphere of nothing to be had.

And whatsoever whatever

is its sphere of influence, suchis suchas he habitually contacts with body.

To just this extent, bodily realization is spoken of by The Consummately Self-Awakened as 'encompassed.'

And again,
deeper than that, friend,
in a bhikkhu
rising himself
entirely above
the sphere of nothing to be had,
there arises and abides
the sphere of neither-perception-nor-non-perception.

And whatsoever whatever is its sphere of influence, suchis suchas he habitually contacts with body.

To just this extent, bodily realization is spoken of by The Consummately Self-Awakened as 'encompassed.'

And again,
deeper than that, friend,
in a bhikkhu
rising himself
entirely above
the sphere of neither-perception-nor-non-perception,
there arises and abides
the sphere where
perception of sense-experience end.

And whatsoever whatever

is its sphere of influence, suchis suchas he habitually contacts with body.

To just this extent bodily realization is spoken of by The Consummately Self-Awakened as without compass."

To this extent, friend, does The Consummately Self-Awakened speak of 'bodily realization'.''

AN 9.43

There then the venerable Udāyin visited the Ancient Ānanda, and, after exchanging greetings, sat down at one side.

Seated at one side, then, the venerable Udāyin said this to the Ancient Ānanda:

""Wisdom-freed, wisdom-freed' it is said, friend, to what extent then, friend, does The Consummately Self-Awakened speak of being 'wisdom-freed'?"

"Here, friend, in a bhikkhu separating himself from sense pleasures, separating himself from unskillful things, with thinking and with re-examination, with the appreciation of the pleasure of solitude, there arises and abides the first knowing and

this is understood wisely.

To just this extent, being wisdom-freed is spoken of by The Consummately Self-Awakened as 'encompassed.'

And again,
deeper than that, friend, in a bhikkhu
resolving thinking and
re-examination,
internally pacified,
whole-heartedly single-minded,
without thinking,
without re-examination,
with the appreciation of
the pleasure of serenity,
there arises and abides
the second knowing and
this is understood wisely.

To just this extent, being wisdom-freed is spoken of by The Consummately Self-Awakened as 'encompassed.'

And again,
deeper than that, friend,
in a bhikkhu
living detached and
indifferent to enthusiasm
recollected and
self-aware,
experiencing that bodily ease
spoken of by the Aristocrat as:

'Detached, recollected, taking it easy.'

there arises and abides the third knowing and this is understood wisely.

To just this extent,

being wisdom-freed is spoken of by The Consummately Self-Awakened as 'encompassed.'

And again, deeper than that, friend, in a bhikkhu letting go of pleasure, letting go of pain, antecedent mental ease and mental pain settling down, without pain but without pleasure, detached, recollected, all-around perfectly pure, there arises and abides the fourth knowing and this is understood wisely.

To just this extent, being wisdom-freed is spoken of by The Consummately Self-Awakened as 'encompassed.'

And again,
deeper than that, friend,
in a bhikkhu
raising himself entirely above
form-perception,
settling down
sensory reaction,
not bringing to mind
perceptions of diversity,
thinking:

'Endless space'

there arises and abides the sphere of space and this is understood wisely. To just this extent, being wisdom-freed is spoken of by The Consummately Self-Awakened as 'encompassed.'

And again, deeper than that, friend, in a bhikkhu raising himself entirely above the sphere of space, thinking:

'Endless consciousness'

there arises and abides the sphere of consciousness and this is understood wisely.

To just this extent, being wisdom-freed is spoken of by The Consummately Self-Awakened as 'encompassed.'

And again, deeper than that, friend, in a bhikkhu raising himself entirely above the sphere of consciousness, thinking:

'There is nothing to be had here.'

there arises and abides the sphere of nothing to be had and this is understood wisely.

To just this extent, being wisdom-freed is spoken of by The Consummately Self-Awakened as 'encompassed.'

And again, deeper than that, friend, in a bhikkhu rising himself entirely above the sphere of unreality, there arises and abides the sphere of neither-perception-nor-non-perception and this is understood wisely.

To just this extent, being wisdom-freed is spoken of by The Consummately Self-Awakened as 'encompassed.'

And again,
deeper than that, friend,
in a bhikkhu
rising himself entirely above
the sphere of neither-perception-nor-non-perception,
there arises and abides
the sphere where
perception of sense-experience ends, and
this is understood wisely.

To just this extent, being wisdom-freed is spoken of by The Consummately Self-Awakened as 'without compass.'

To this extent, friend, does The Consummately Self-Awakened speak of being 'wisdom-freed'.''

AN 9.4

There then the venerable Udāyin visited the Ancient Ānanda, and, after exchanging greetings, sat down at one side.

Seated at one side, then, the venerable Udāyin said this to the Ancient Ānanda:

"Two measure-freed, two measure-freed' it is said, friend, to what extent then, friend, does The Consummately Self-Awakened speak of being 'two measure-freed'?''

"Here, friend, in a bhikkhu separating himself from sense pleasures, separating himself from unskillful things, with thinking and with re-examination, with the appreciation of the pleasure of solitude, there arises and abides the first knowing.

And whatsoever whatever is its sphere of influence, suchis suchas he habitually contacts with body and this is understood wisely.

To just this extent, being by two-measures-freed is spoken of by The Consummately Self-Awakened as 'encompassed.'

And again,
deeper than that, friend,
in a bhikkhu
resolving thinking and
re-examination,
internally pacified,
whole-heartedly single-minded,
without thinking,
without re-examination,
with the appreciation of
the pleasure of knowing,

there arises and abides the second knowing.

And whatsoever whatever is its sphere of influence, suchis suchas he habitually contacts with body and this is understood wisely.

To just this extent, being by two-measures-freed is spoken of by The Consummately Self-Awakened as 'encompassed.'

And again,
deeper than that, friend,
in a bhikkhu
living detached and indifferent to
enthusiasm
recollected and self-aware,
experiencing that bodily ease
spoken of by the Aristocrat as:

'Detached, recollected, taking it easy.'

there arises and abides the third knowing.

And whatsoever whatever is its sphere of influence, suchis suchas he habitually contacts with body and this is understood wisely.

To just this extent, being by two-measures-freed is spoken of by The Consummately Self-Awakened as 'encompassed.'

And again, deeper than that, friend,

in a bhikkhu
letting go of pleasure,
letting go of pain,
antecedent mental ease and
mental pain
settling down,
without pain but
without pleasure,
detached,
recollected,
all-around perfectly pure,
there arises and abides
the fourth knowing.

And whatsoever whatever is its sphere of influence, suchis suchas he habitually contacts with body and this is understood wisely.

To just this extent, being by two-measures-freed is spoken of by The Consummately Self-Awakened as 'encompassed.'

And again,
deeper than that, friend,
in a bhikkhu
raising himself entirely above
form-perception,
settling down
sensory reaction,
not bringing to mind
perceptions of diversity,
thinking:

'Endless space'

there arises and abides the sphere of space.

And whatsoever

whatever
is its sphere of influence,
suchis suchas
he habitually contacts
with body
and this is understood wisely.

To just this extent, being by two-measures-freed is spoken of by The Consummately Self-Awakened as 'encompassed.'

And again, deeper than that, friend, in a bhikkhu raising himself entirely above the sphere of space, thinking:

'Endless consciousness'

there arises and abides the sphere of consciousness.

And whatsoever whatever is its sphere of influence, suchis suchas he habitually contacts with body and this is understood wisely.

To just this extent, being by two-measures-freed is spoken of by The Consummately Self-Awakened as 'encompassed.'

And again, deeper than that, friend, in a bhikkhu raising himself entirely above the sphere of consciousness, thinking: 'There is nothing to be had here..'

there arises and abides the sphere of nothing to be had.

And whatsoever whatever is its sphere of influence, suchis suchas he habitually contacts with body and this is understood wisely.

To just this extent, being by two-measures-freed is spoken of by The Consummately Self-Awakened as 'encompassed.'

And again,
deeper than that, friend,
in a bhikkhu
rising himself entirely above
the sphere of nothing to be had,
there arises and abides
the sphere of neither-perception-nor-non-perception.

And whatsoever whatever is its sphere of influence, suchis suchas he habitually contacts with body and this is understood wisely.

To just this extent, being by two-measures-freed is spoken of by The Consummately Self-Awakened as 'encompassed.'

And again, deeper than that, friend, in a bhikkhu rising himself entirely above the sphere of neither-perception-nor-non-perception, there arises and abides in the sphere where perception of sense-experience ends.

And whatsoever whatever is its sphere of influence, suchis suchas he habitually contacts with body and this is understood wisely.

To just this extent, being by two-measures-freed is spoken of by The Consummately Self-Awakened as being 'without compass.'

To this extent, friend, does The Consummately Self-Awakened speak of being 'by two-measures-freed'.''

AN 9.45

There the venerable Udāyin visited The Ancient Ānanda and, after exchanging greetings and salutations, sat down at one side.

Seated to one side then, he said this to The Ancient Ānanda:

"'Nibbāna in this seen thing!
Nibbāna in this seen thing!', friend,
so it is said.

To what extent then, friend, has The Consummately Self-Awakened spoken of *Nibbāna* in this seen thing?"

"Here, friend, a bhikkhu separating himself from sense pleasures, separating himself from unskillful things, with thinking, with re-examination isolation-born pleasurable-enthusiasm rises up into and makes a habitat of the first knowing.

And whatever is whatever of that sphere that is such as that which he lives touching with body and understanding with wisdom.

To just this extent then friend, is a circumstantial $Nibb\bar{a}na$ in this seen thing spoken of by The Consummately Self-Awakened.

Again, friend, deeper than that, a beggar, dissolving thinking and re-examination, internally self-pacified, become whole-heartedly single minded, without thinking, without re-examination, rises up into and makes a habitat of the second knowing.

And whatever is whatever of that sphere that is such as that which he lives touching with body and understands with wisdom.

To just this extent then friend, is a circumstantial Nibbāna in this seen thing spoken of by The Consummately Self-Awakened. Again, friend,

deeper than that,
a beggar,
with the vanishing of enthusiasm,
and living detached,
minding,
self-aware,
and pleased,
experiencing in his own body
that of which the Aristocrats speak
when they say:

'Detached, minding, he lives pleasantly' rises up into and makes a habitat of the third knowing.

And whatever is whatever of that sphere that is such as that which he lives touching with body and understands with wisdom.

To just this extent then friend, is a circumstantial Nibbāna in this seen thing spoken of by The Consummately Self-Awakened.

Again, friend,
deeper than that, a beggar,
letting go of pleasures,
letting go of pains,
settling down
the antecedent mental ease and
mental pain,
without pain,
but without pleasure,
detached,
recollected,
surpassingly pure
rises up into and
makes a habitat of
the fourth knowing.

And whatever is whatever of that sphere that is such as that which he lives touching with body and understands with wisdom.

To just this extent then friend, is a circumstantial $Nibb\bar{a}na$ in this seen thing spoken of by The Consummately Self-Awakened.

Again, friend,
deeper than that,
a beggar,
passing beyond all
perception of form,
settling down perception of
difference,
thinking:
'Endless Space'
he rises up into and
makes a habitat of
the sphere of space.

And whatever is whatever of that sphere that is such as that which he lives touching with body and understands with wisdom.

makes a habitat of

To just this extent then friend, is a circumstantial $Nibb\bar{a}na$ in this seen thing spoken of by The Consummately Self-Awakened.

Again, friend, deeper than that, a beggar, settling down the whole of the sphere of Space, thinking:
'Endless Consciousness' he rises up into and

the sphere of consciousness.

And whatever is whatever of that sphere that is such as that which he lives touching with body and understands with wisdom.

To just this extent then friend, is a circumstantial $Nibb\bar{a}na$ in this seen thing spoken of by The Consummately Self-Awakened.

Again, friend, deeper than that, a beggar, settling down the whole of the sphere of consciousness, thinking:

'There is nothing to be had here' he rises up into and makes a habitat of the sphere of nothing's had there.

And whatever is whatever of that sphere that is such as that which he lives touching with body and understands with wisdom.

To just this extent then friend, is a circumstantial $Nibb\bar{a}na$ in this seen thing spoken of by The Consummately Self-Awakened.

Again, friend,
deeper than that,
a beggar,
settling down the whole of
the sphere of nothing's had there,
he rises up into and
makes a habitat of
the sphere of neither-perception-nor-non-perception.

And whatever is whatever of that sphere that is such as that which he lives touching with body and understands with wisdom.

To just this extent then friend, is a circumstantial $Nibb\bar{a}na$ in this seen thing spoken of by The Consummately Self-Awakened.

Again, friend,
deeper than that,
a beggar,
settling down the whole of
the sphere of neither-perception-nor-non-perception,
he rises up into and
makes a habitat of
the ending of perception of sense-experience.

And whatever is whatever of that sphere that is such as that which he lives touching with body and seeing with wisdom.

There he sees that he has thoroughly eradicated the corrupting influences.

To just this extent then friend, is a non-circumstantial $Nibb\bar{a}na$ in this seen thing spoken of by The Consummately Self-Awakened."

AN 9.51



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