

Dutthagatthaka Sutta

The Eightfold Discourse on the Corrupt

Some dispute with their minds corrupt;
Some dispute with truthful minds.
Sages do not enter disputes that have arise
And so do not become despondent anywhere.

As one knows, so one speaks;
How could one overcome one's views
When led by desire, stuck in what's pleasing,
And making up (ideas of) what's correct?

Of ignoble character — say the skillful (ones) —
Is someone who, unasked, boasts
Of one's self, and
Of one's virtue and practices.

Of noble character — say the skillful (ones) —
Is a monastic at peace and fully stilled
Who does not speak of one's own virtue,
Or have any arrogance anywhere in the world.

Those who see personal advantage
In tainted doctrines;
They concoct, make up and reverse,
Depend on an unstable peace.

It's not easy to to overcome being entrenched in views:
Wishing to take up a doctrine,
(Such) a person would adopt or reject
A doctrine based on being entrenched.

Those who are cleansed do not form a view
About states of becoming or non-becoming
anywhere in the world.
Having abandoned illusions and conceit,
By what means would those who are cleansed
go (to non-attachment)?
They are without attachment.

One who is attached argues over doctrines —
How and with what does one argue with
someone unattached?
Embracing nothing, rejecting nothing,
Right here, a person has shaken off every view.