SN 7.4 — With Bhāradvāja the Bitter

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Text

Linked Discourses 7.4

1. The Perfected Ones

With Bhāradvāja the Bitter

At one time the Buddha was staying near Rājagaha in the Bamboo Grove, the squirrels' feeding ground. The brahmin Bhāradvāja the Bitter heard a rumor that a brahmin of the Bhāradvāja clan had gone forth from the lay life to homelessness in the presence of the ascetic Gotama. Angry and displeased he went to the Buddha and stood silently to one side.

Then the Buddha, knowing Bhāradvāja the Bitter's train of thought, addressed him in verse:

"Whoever wrongs a man who has done no wrong,

a pure man who has not a blemish,

the evil backfires on the fool,

like fine dust thrown upwind."

When he said this, the brahmin Bhāradvāja the Bitter said to the Buddha, "Excellent, worthy Gotama! ..." ... And Venerable Bhāradvāja became one of the perfected.