SN 14.17 — Faithless

English translation by Bhikkhu Sujato.
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Text

Linked Discourses 14.17

Chapter Two

Faithless

At Sāvatthī.

“Mendicants, sentient beings join together and converge because of an element: the faithless with the faithless, the unconscientious with the unconscientious, the imprudent with the imprudent, the unlearned with the unlearned, the lazy with the lazy, the unmindful with the unmindful, and the witless with the witless.

In the past, too, sentient beings came together and converged because of an element. …

In the future, too, sentient beings will join together and converge because of an element. …

At present, too, sentient beings join together and converge because of an element. …

Sentient beings join together and converge because of an element: the faithful with the faithful, the conscientious with the conscientious, the prudent with the prudent, the learned with the learned, the energetic with the energetic, the mindful with the mindful, and the wise with the wise. In the past … In the future … At present, too, sentient beings join together and converge because of an element. …”