SN 55.2 — The Objective of the Spiritual Life

English translation by Bhikkhu Sujato.
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Text

Linked Discourses 55.2

1. At Bamboo Gate

The Objective of the Spiritual Life

“Mendicants, a noble disciple who has four things is a stream-enterer, not liable to be reborn in the underworld, assured, destined for awakening.

What four? It’s when a noble disciple has experiential confidence in the Buddha … the teaching … the Saṅgha … And they have the ethical conduct loved by the noble ones … leading to immersion. A noble disciple who has these four things is a stream-enterer, not liable to be reborn in the underworld, assured, destined for awakening.”

That is what the Buddha said. Then the Holy One, the Teacher, went on to say:

“Those who have faith and ethics,

confidence, and vision of the truth,

in time arrive at happiness,

the objective of the spiritual life.”