

0.0.1 Suvira

1. Thus was heard by me: At one time the Auspicious One was dwelling in Savatthi at Jeta's Grove, Anathapindikā's Park. At that place the Auspicious One addressed the bhikkhus. "Bhikkhus." "Yes, Bhante" those bhikkhus replied to the Auspicious One. The Auspicious One said this:

2. Once in the past, O bhikkhus, the asuras were advancing against the devas. So then O bhikkhus, Sakka, ruler of the devas, addressed Suvira, son of the devas. "My son Suvira, these asuras are advancing against the devas.

Go, my son Suvira, go out to meet the asuras." "Yes, your honour." O bhikkhus, Suvira, son of the devas, having replied to Sakka, ruler of the devas, grew negligent.

3. Also for a second time, O bhikkhus, Sakka, ruler of the devas, addressed Suvira, son of the devas. "My son Suvira, these asuras are advancing against the devas.

Go, my son Suvira, go out to meet the asuras." "Yes, your honour." O bhikkhus, Suvira, son of the devas, having also replied to Sakka, ruler of the devas for the second time, grew negligent.

4. Also for a third time, O bhikkhus, Sakka, ruler of the devas, addressed Suvira, son of the devas. "My son Suvira, these asuras are advancing against the devas.

Go, my son Suvira, go out to meet the asuras.” “Yes, your honour.” O bhikkhus, Suvira, son of the devas, having also replied to Sakka, ruler of the devas for the third time, grew negligent.

5. So then, O bhikkhus, Sakka, ruler of the devas, addressed Suvira, son of the devas, in verse:

“Where one attains happiness without putting
forth effort,
go there Suvira, and even take me there with
you.”

(Suvira:)

“For the lazy one who does not rouse himself,
who does not cause to do that which should
be done but succeeds in [attaining] all
his desires,
that to me, O Sakka, is the excellent path.”

(Sakka:)

“Where the lazy one who does not rouse him-
self,
succeeds in [attaining] perpetual happiness,
go there Suvira, and even take me there with
you.”

(Suvira:)

That happiness which we might find without

work, O Sakka, best of devas,
the sorrowless state, free from grief,
that to me, O Sakka, is the excellent path.”

(sakko:)

“If there exists someone somewhere, who with-
out work, does not decline,
that indeed is nibbana’s path.
Go there Suvira, and even take me there with
you.”).

6. “Indeed, O bhikkhus, [if] Sakka, ruler of the devas, living off the fruit of his own merits, exercising overlordship and sovereignty over the Tavatimsa devas, will speak in praise of arousing energy and effort, then you here, O bhikkhus, having gone forth in such a well-proclaimed Dhamma and Discipline, must let your energy, exertion and striving shine forth for the attainment of the as-yet-unattained, for the achievement of the as-yet-unachieved, for the realization of the as-yet-unrealized.”