

THE PALIVERSE PROJECT

The Universe of Buddha's Wisdom

The Triple Canon (Tipiṭaka)

The Canon of Discourses (Sutta Piṭaka)

5. The Collection of Minor Texts (5. Khuddaka Nikāya)

02. The Teaching in Verses (02. Dhammapadapāḷi)

22. The Chapter on Hell (22. Nirayavaggo)

[Dhp 306-319, PTS 45-46]



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5. The Collection of Minor Texts

02. The Teaching in Verses

22. The Chapter on Hell

- 306.** A liar goes to hell, and he who having done says "I do not do";
Both of them, after death, become equal, human beings of low action in the hereafter.
- 307.** Many wearing the orange robe around their necks, of bad character, unrestrained;
The evil ones, by their evil deeds, are reborn in hell.
- 308.** Better an iron ball consumed, heated, like a flame of fire;
Than that an immoral one, unrestrained, should consume the country's almsfood.
- 309.** Four states a heedless man commits, one who frequents another's wife;
Acquisition of demerit, uncomfortable sleeping, blame as the third, hell as the fourth.
- 310.** There is gain of demerit and an evil destination, the pleasure of the frightened one with the frightened one is slight;
And the king decrees a heavy punishment, therefore a man should not resort to another's wife.
- 311.** Just as kusa grass wrongly grasped cuts the very hand;
Asceticism wrongly handled drags one down to hell.
- 312.** Whatever lax action, and whatever defiled religious duty;
A suspicious holy life - that is not of great fruit.
- 313.** "If one would do it, one should do it; one should firmly exert in it;
For lax renunciation scatters more dust.
- 314.** Wrong-doing not done is better; afterwards wrong-doing burns;
And what is well done is better, which having done one does not regret.
- 315.** Just as a borderland city, guarded within and without;
So guard yourselves, let not the moment pass you by;
For those who have missed the moment grieve, consigned to hell.
- 316.** They are ashamed of what should not be ashamed of, they are not ashamed of what should be ashamed of;
Having undertaken wrong view, beings go to an unfortunate realm.

- 317.** Seeing danger in the fearless, and seeing fearlessness in danger;
Having undertaken wrong view, beings go to an unfortunate realm.
- 318.** Those who perceive fault in the faultless, and see the faulty as faultless;
Having undertaken wrong view, beings go to an unfortunate realm.
- 319.** Having known fault as fault, and the faultless as faultless;
Having undertaken right view, beings go to a good destination.

The Chapter on Hell is concluded as twenty-second.



ABOUT THIS TRANSLATION

This translation is part of the PaliVerse Project - the first complete, unified English translation of the Pāli Canon together with its Commentaries (Aṭṭhakathā) and Subcommentaries (Tīkā), accompanied by interactive study tools. PaliVerse is an ongoing project. The AI translations are continuously improved through experts' revisions and feedback. This text is the latest translation as of the date of download.

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