

Mangala Sutta

The Discourse on Blessings

I have heard that at one time the Blessed One was staying in Savatthi at Jeta's Grove, Anathapindika's park.

Then a certain devata, in the far extreme of the night, her extreme radiance lighting up the entirety of Jeta's Grove, approached the Blessed One. On approaching, having bowed to the Blessed One, stood to one side.

As she was standing there, she addressed the Blessed One with a verse: "Many devas & humans beings give thought to blessing, Desiring well-being. Tell, then, the highest blessing."

"Not consorting with fools, consorting with the wise,
Paying homage to those who deserve homage:
This is the highest blessing.

Living in a civilized country, having made merit in the past, directing oneself rightly:
This is the highest blessing.

Broad knowledge, skill, discipline well-mastered,
words well-spoken:
This is the highest blessing.

Support for one's parents, assistance to one's wife & children, jobs that are not left unfinished:
This is the highest blessing.

Generosity, living by the Dhamma, assistance to one's relatives, deeds that are blameless:
This is the highest blessing.

Avoiding, abstaining from evil; refraining from intoxicants, being heedful with regard to qualities of the mind:
This is the highest blessing.

Respect, humility, contentment, gratitude, hearing the Dhamma on timely occasions:
This is the highest blessing.

Patience, composure, seeing contemplatives, discussing the Dhamma on timely occasions:
This is the highest blessing.

Austerity, celibacy, seeing the Noble Truths, realizing Liberation:
This is the highest blessing.

A mind that, when touched by the ways of the world, is unshaken, sorrowless, dustless, secure:
This is the highest blessing.

Everywhere undefeated when doing these things, people go everywhere in well-being:
This is their highest blessing."