AN 3.18 — Devaloka Sutta (Realms of the Devas)

English translation by Bhikkhu Candana.

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Text

18. Devaloka Sutta (Realms of the Devas) “Bhikkhus, if those from other sects were to ask you the following question:

‘Friends, are you practicing The Holy Life under the recluse Gautama so that you attain a higher rebirth in some heavenly Deva realms?’

“Would you then not find such a posited question distasteful, repulsive, and revolting?”

“Yes, Blessed Lord!” The Bhikkhus responded.

“Therefore, Bhikkhus, seeing that rebirth even in the higher or Deva realms, where you would enjoy a long lifespan, celestial glory, beauty, happiness, and power, is still quite distasteful, repulsive, and revolting to you, then, the very possibility of engaging in bodily wrongdoing, in verbal wrongdoing, and in mental wrongdoing should be equally distasteful, repulsive, and revolting to you.”