AN 3.42 — Tiṭhāna Sutta (Three Traits)

English translation by Bhikkhu Candana.

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Text

42. Tiṭhāna Sutta (Three Traits) Bhikkhus, there are three things that distinguish a person as someone who has confidence in The Dhamma and thereby has faith. What are these three?

He desires to see the virtuous ones.

His heart always desires to hear The Dhamma.

And he remains generous while living the household life, without the blemishes of stinginess affecting his heart. He delights in relinquishing, with a mind released and benevolent, as he open-handedly keeps giving to all those in need, truly enjoying the very giving of gifts.

Bhikkhus, it is by having these three traits that one is known to have confidence and faith.

‘The one who desires to see the virtuous beings, Who looks for opportunities to hear The Dhamma, And has overcome the blemishes of stinginess, Is said to indeed possess faith.’