Mil 3.5.5 — 5. Question on Reconnecting and Not Transmigrating

English translation by John Kelly.
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Text

Milinda’s Questions

Buddha Chapter

5. Question on Reconnecting and Not Transmigrating

The king asked: “Venerable Nāgasena, is it so that one does not transmigrate and yet one reconnects?” “Yes, your majesty, one does not transmigrate and yet one reconnects.” “How, Venerable Nāgasena, is it that one does not transmigrate and yet one reconnects? Please give me an analogy.” “Just as, your majesty, if a person kindled one lamp from another would that lamp have transmigrated from the other lamp?” “Certainly not, venerable sir.” “In the same way, your majesty, one does not transmigrate and yet one reconnects.”

“Give me another analogy.” “Do you remember, your majesty, learning some verse from your teacher of verses?” “Yes, venerable sir.” “Then, your majesty, has that verse transmigrated from the teacher?” “Certainly not, venerable sir.” “In the same way, your majesty, one does not transmigrate and yet one reconnects.”

“You are clever, Venerable Nāgasena!”

Question on Reconnecting and Not Transmigrating fifth