Mil 3.7.2 — 2. Question on Obtaining Mindfulness on a Quality of the Buddha

English translation by John Kelly.
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Text

Milinda's Questions

Analysis of Formless Dhammas Chapter

2. Question on Obtaining Mindfulness on a Quality of the Buddha

The king said: "Venerable Nāgasena, you said this, 'One could do evil for a hundred years, but at the time of death might obtain a single mindful moment on a quality of the Buddha, and thus arise in the realm of the devas,' I don't believe this. And then you said, 'One might arise in a hell realm by killing one person,' this too I don't believe."

"What do you think, your majesty, could even a small stone float on the water without a boat?" "Certainly not, venerable sir." "But, your majesty, could even a load of a hundred stones loaded onto a boat float on the water?" "Yes, venerable sir." "Your majesty, skilled deeds should be considered as like a boat."

"You are clever, Venerable Nāgasena!"

Question on Obtaining Mindfulness on a Quality of the Buddha second