

Verses on the Path of Practice from “Three Daily Observances”

Kagyü Monlam Book page 15

(also in the Dom Sum practice chanted as part of the morning prayers at PTC Monastery)

Flickering stars and candle flames,
Illusions, water bubbles, dreams,
Dewdrops, clouds, a lightning flash:
View all composite things like this.

All that happens has a cause
As spoken by the One Gone Thus;
There is no cause without a stop.
These are the words the Great Monk taught:

Abandon actions that cause harm,
Engage in virtue all you can,
Tame your own mind utterly:
This is the Buddha’s great teaching.

*Famous translation of the first verse by Dr. Kenneth Saunders,
used in Price and Wong translation of Diamond Sutra p53:*

Thus shall ye think of all this fleeting world:
A star at dawn, a bubble in a stream;
A flash of lightning in a summer cloud,
A flickering lamp, a phantom and a dream.