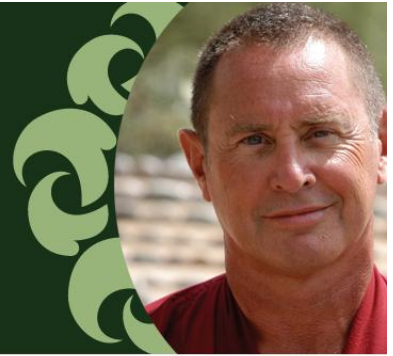


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The Root Verses from the "Freedom from the Four Attachments"

When the holy Lama, the Great One, the Sachen, was twelve years of age, he spent six months in a deep practice to reach the Realized One, Manjushri.

One day he had a direct vision of the Lord, Manjushri. His body was a russet gold, and he sat atop a throne of jewels, in the midst of a great mass of pure light. He held his hands in the gesture of teaching the Dharma, and sat with a look of perfect beauty, flanked by a pair of bodhisattvas. And then he spoke the following words:

A person who is still attached to this life is no Dharma practitioner.

A person who is still attached to the three worlds has no renunciation.

A person who is still attached to getting what they want is no bodhisattva.

A person who still grasps to things has no worldview.

And the Sachen thought carefully about the meaning of these words. And he came to realize that the entire practice of the path of the perfections could all be found here, in these words for developing the good heart, called "Freedom from the Four Attachments." And thus did he come to an extraordinary level of understanding all the things there are.