

Rudolf Steiner's Calendar of the Soul Verse 12 Summer Solstice St. John's tide

"Life Spirit" Verse 12 relates to Condition 6, "Feel gratitude for everything that falls to your lot." We find a correlation in Luke 38: "And Mary said, Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word."

Here we see that Mary is immediately willing to do God's work. She can release her "godly gifts", (Götterkräfte) the will forces of her astral and ego, to cosmic union—even as in Verse 12, the I in the consciousness soul does the same. The Self trusts that "I can seek myself in cosmic light and warmth," in the Son and the Father, and know that I will find my physical self waiting my safe return below -for Christ has also since Golgotha united with Earth.

Gazing into the Earth's beauty releases forces in me that enable me to feel a part of the cosmos, part of its beauty. I long to breathe in, absorb this beauty. And I feel I'm not alone—I'm part of this beauty.

My gratitude for the Earth's new growth and blossom-beauty and for the high, blue sunlit skies fills my soul and I want to lose all that is small in me and soar into the beauty of the cosmos. I feel it as a holy experience. I feel the world's light and warmth in my own soul and filled with love I tell myself that God who created all this beauty and life, created me, too, and is within me as my true I.

Der Welten Schönheitsglanz,
Er zwinget mich aus Seelentiefen
Des Eigenlebens Götterkräfte
Zum Weltenfluge zu entbinden,
Mich selber zu verlassen,
Vertrauend nur mich suchend
In Weltenlicht und Weltenwärme

original German by Rudolf Steiner.



The beautiful lustre of the world
Compels me from the depth of
soul
That I release to cosmic flight
The godly forces of my own life:
To leave myself below,
And trusting, seek myself
In cosmic light and cosmic
warmth.

tr. by Daisy Aldan..



The splendor of Nature's beauty
Lures me out of my soul depths
To liberate for cosmic flight
The divine forces
Of my own existence.---

To abandon myself,
Yet trusting
And seeking myself alone
In cosmic light,
And cosmic warmth..

tr. by Tom Mellett.



With our thoughts and feelings we experience the earth's beautiful out breathing, now at its fullest. Just as plants reach up toward the Sun Light, we strive to reach up toward the Love-bearing Beings of light and warmth—the First Hierarchy—who shine toward us out of golden light. They draw us up into their sphere.

Going out beyond our ordinary self into cosmic expanses there we feel it is a **New Birth** that we are striving toward. This awareness is brought about even more now since sensing in Verse 10 our being touched by a Godly Being. This is a time to "change our thinking" as John the Baptist strongly preached.

As long ago at midsummer folk felt their spiritual life was intimately bound up with relating to the spiritual beings of the heavens and to the nature beings of the Earth Soul, it is possible for us to reach out beyond ourselves at St. John's Tide. Of all the solstice and equinox festivals, like gateways to the spiritual world, the summer solstice, with Earth's great out breathing, was always seen as a uniting of the Earth Soul with its Spirit in the periphery of the great Sun. It was a time of "enlightenment" for the ancients; that is, in union with cosmic heights they could "receive the Light," could encounter their higher "I".

At this festival of St. John's, celebrating the birthday of John the Baptist, born 6 months before the Luke child, Verse 12 tells us that in the beauties of the heights of summer, we retain this wish to fly out and join as spirit member with the beings of Cosmic Light and Warmth. We feel that the "God Life" that has revealed itself as world beauty is also within us. We feel immense gratitude for the Christ Being with whom we have our true I.

The radiant beauty of the world
Compels my inmost soul to free
God-given powers of my nature
That they may soar into the cosmos,
To take wing from my Self,
And trustingly to seek myself
In cosmic light and cosmic warmth

tr. By Ruth & Hans Pusch



The world's fair shining glory
Compels me to release
From depths of soul to cosmic flight
My own life's God-inspired forces;
To leave myself behind
And trustingly to seek myself
In cosmic light and cosmic warmth.

tr. by Brigitte Knaack.

Increasingly this union today of the human I, filled by the impulse of Christ, has potential to awaken us to a new sense of self and purpose not so determined by external factors, but out of ourselves inwardly. In free union with these spirit heights in summer, it is for us to absorb a sense of brotherhood, a moral impulse ever more into ourselves.

In the true I as we may experience with the Christ, the I is universal. And as Jonathan Hilton describes this universal I in his attached article, "we all share in it together, and find it in each other. Only by recognizing this "I", the true Spirit, can we ever truly "change our thinking," or can we ever truly know that truth which sets us free to develop new social forms." Now the Spirit of the Earth and with all thankfulness, the Christ in us.