

## Rudolf Steiner's *Calendar of the Soul* Verse 13 - Gods' Word of Truth Flames in Me

Eloise Krivosheia

'Spirit Man' or 'Spirit Human Being' Verse 13 relates to Condition 7, "Unite all previous 6 conditions in living." Living consciously in all six conditions brings life into harmony and freedom with others—a thought closely related to the gifts of the Spirits of Wisdom. Verse 13 concludes the First Quarter of verses.

The verses this season have shown us how we can activate increasingly higher states of consciousness. The Sun is still at summer height and Verse 13 speaks of the "fire" around us and within us. Soaring to "grounds of Spirit," we are really now in the world of spirit and we wish truly to seek our spirit kinship. This seeking is the world of Spiritual Will.

In the verse **Thinking, Feeling and Willing are united by the Word of Truth** which bids us discover our Spirit-kinship. Seeking spiritual kinship requires will initiative, the I working in the will. And although we have little consciousness of the world of will, in summer our will forces work within us strongly, and joyfully we want to experience a greater closeness to all those hierarchies that brought us into being. A vivid inner union of thinking, feeling and willing are important for us to be cognizant of these Beings.

Und bin ich in den Sinneshöhen,  
So flammt in meinen Seelentiefen  
Aus Geistes Feuerwelten  
Der Götter Wahrheitswort:

In Geistesgründen suche ahnend  
Dich geistverwandt zu finden.

*original German by Rudolf Steiner.*



And when I am in senses' heights  
There flames within my depth of soul  
From Spirit fire-worlds,  
The Word-of-Truth of gods:  
In grounds of Spirit, seek divining  
To find your Spirit kinship.

*tr. by Daisy Aldan..*



Iris Sullivan

And when I live in senses' heights,  
There flames up deep within my soul  
Out of the spirit's fiery worlds  
The gods' own word of truth:  
In spirit grounds now seek  
expectantly  
To find your spirit kinship.

*tr. by Ruth & Hans Pusch.*



Iris Sullivan

Line 2, Aldan's "there flames within my depth of soul,"\* appears to be a picture of my will forces *afire* — for we hear the Word-of-Truth of gods coming to us *from Spirit Fire Worlds*. With awakening will, consciously I can feel that I am a spiritual being capable of seeking Divine kinship. We may indeed feel that the gentle urging by the Word of Truth comes to us from the Christ, the Cosmic I. Welcomed, and feeling the intuitive yearning of Ahnung, Line 5, we will seek our spirit relationship, our spirit kinfolk.

\*A curious relatedness to such cosmic flaming forces is that often after a fever, we have a special chance to find a spiritual truth for which we may have unconsciously been needing or seeking. Goethe experienced such.

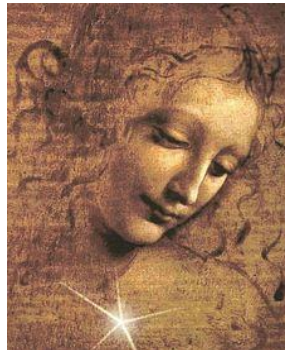
**Ahnung** would seem to be a re-emergence on a higher level of a state of consciousness that we had in very ancient times. Can we hear in our heart what the gods are saying to us? At this time of year, we are able to think who we truly are only with Ahnung. Later, both vivid feeling and deepened thinking must be ours. In Esoteric Lesson, Oct. 30, 1911, Rudolf Steiner told his spirit pupils that ...."whereas God remains an abstraction to mere thinking ..If we glow through our thinking with reverence, devotion and humility, we may hope to penetrate the spiritual world." (See also Rudolf Steiner's *Social Issues* Lecture 1, January 5 1920.)

"When thus consciously, humbly, we allow our souls to soar to the heights of sensory glory, then we know that there is a part of this glory within us. If that were not so, we would be unable to recognize spirit's presence in the world for we cannot recognize what is not already a part of us. We know that the spark glowing within us is a part of spirit's fire that ignites and creates the cosmos." (Patsy Scala, *Weekly Meditations*, p. 43.)

**The "Word of Truth of Gods"** is a moral and fiery world. From our Spirit relations in these "fire worlds," come the origin of our moral world order—Love-Seraphim, Harmony-Cherubim, and Will-Thrones. Our 'free deeds' can make real these moral actions on earth. While at night we live in that moral world order, unknown to us during the day, we yet have an impulse to seek truth and goodness in our deeds.

And when I've ris'n to heights of  
sense,  
There flames up deep within my soul  
From fiery spirit worlds  
The gods' own Word of truth:  
**In spirit grounds divining seek  
To find your spirit kinship.**

*tr. by John F. Gardner*



Leonardo da Vinci

And so, feeling the warming flames of the First Hierarchy, we may especially think of the Seraphim, Spirits of Fire Warmth and Love.

We can experience ourselves as soul-spiritual nature, as higher I within this cosmic world; for it is with this "I" that we can know the beings of light and warmth.

**The seeking is to be ongoing**, for "suche ahnend" in Line 5 is the gerund form, 'we are seeking,' and as humans we actually need a continuous feeling of kinship with the hierarchies. With more active inner thinking, feeling, and willing, we can truly become more conscious of these Beings and conscious that in time we are to evolve to a 10th hierarchy.

**Out of their love for us we were created.** Rudolf Steiner has described how in the beginning the Seraphim received the plans for our evolution from God, the Cherubim thought them out, and out of their love and devotion to the Cherubim, the Thrones gave them forth. The Kyriotetes, Spirits of Wisdom, also are powerful, light-filled Beings devoted to helping us build harmony and warmth of community. Ever more our task now in this time of the consciousness soul and in the constellation epoch of Pisces, which we may see as human beings relating in brotherhood, we may especially seek to know the Kyriotetes and ask for their wise help, their special close connection to the Christ, in forming harmonious community.

**Our growing capacity for individuality** is pictured in a Bible verse: Luke 39-40, that describes how Mary with haste took initiative to go to stay with and help her cousin who at an advanced age was pregnant (with John, to be the Baptist). Similarly, at this time of year, we often are with, or we initiate being with, those with whom we are to work in the coming year. Perhaps, sparked by our I working in our will, feeling real "spirit kinship," even real communion with the Christ, we initiate a special togetherness.

**An added thought** may further describe the mysterious wish of human beings to reach up in summer to the Word of Truth: we observe that all living beings in growth try to reach up to their archetypes. Even a newly planted bare root rose tries with every shoot to grow into a beautiful mature rose bush. It is thus, that we, too, wish to reach up to our archetype, to the Christ, to the Spirit of Truth.



(See *The Michael Letters*, Nov 16, 1924 for heart filled communication from Rudolf Steiner regarding our relationships to Archangel Michael and to the Christ. An excerpt follows.)

"Human beings are aware that they are confronting reality when they confront the physical sun and receive its light and warmth. Just so must they live in relationship to Christ, the spiritual Sun, which has united its existence with that of earth, and take up livingly into their souls what corresponds in the spiritual world to warmth and light.

"They will feel themselves permeated by *spiritual warmth* as they experience Christ within them, and will say as they sense this permeation: 'This warmth frees my humanity from cosmic ties by which it must not remain bound. Divine-spiritual Existence in primeval times had the task of bringing me to the attainment of freedom in regions in which it cannot now accompany me further, but in these regions it gave me the Christ in order that Christ's forces may now endow me as a free being with what was once supplied as a natural endowment by Divine-spiritual Existence in primeval times. Then, however, the way of nature and the way of the spirit were one. This warmth restores me to the Divine Element from which I sprang.'

"As human beings feel this, their experience in and with the Christ becomes one in innermost soul-warmth with the experience of true, genuine humanness. 'Christ gives me my human nature.' Such will be the profound sense suffusing the soul to its depths. And after one has experienced this feeling, one goes on further to experience oneself raised up by the Christ beyond mere earthly existence, becoming one with the starry surroundings that encompass the earth and with everything divine-spiritual to be met with there.

"The same holds true of *spiritual light*. An individual can sense his humanity in fullness when he becomes aware of himself as a free agent. But a certain darkness accompanies this experience. Light's ancient divine-spiritual Source no longer shines. But the Light with which Christ endows the human I restores that primeval illumination. In communion of this kind with the Christ, one's whole soul can be irradiated by the Sun-like thought: 'The glorious divine Light of ancient days lives again and shines out, though its luminosity is not the luminosity of nature.'

"This means that human beings will feel in spiritual warmth the impulse to carry them into the cosmic future in a way that enables them to remain true to the original gifts they received from the divine-spiritual beings even though, in their own realm as human beings, they have not evolved to the stage of free individuality. Human beings thus will sense in the spiritual Light the force to lead them, with ever higher and more inclusive perceptive consciousness, into the world in which they will find themselves together again, as free agents, with their original Gods.

"If we were to shy away from a full experience of freedom and become fixed in our original state of existence, willing to continue on in the condition of primeval, naïve divine grace that once prevailed, we would be led to Lucifer, whose desire it is to reject the world as it is today.

"If we were to accept the present state of things, and be content to let only that universal rule of natural law conceived by a morally neutral intellect prevail, while restricting ourselves to a merely mental experience of freedom, we would be led ...to Ahriman, who would like to see the contemporary world turn into a purely intellectual cosmos.

"... security and certainty flourish in the souls and spirits of human beings who, looking outward in spirit see Michael and looking inward see the Christ. This certainty and security make it possible for them to travel the cosmic path on which, never losing touch with their origin, they will find their rightful future coming to its true and rightful completion."

## Inner Being Cup of Light

Rudolf Steiner 1914

Even as blossom and fruit,  
By the Sun-Spirit ripened,  
Spring from the flowering stem,  
So from the stem of man's inner being  
Will Truth uplift his budding cup of light,  
Tended by God and nurtured by the Good.

Therefore to the Truth  
Every good man aspires,  
As to the Light  
The plant reaches out  
Lest it be unable to come to flower.

Note: From *Verses and Meditations*, Rudolf Steiner Press, 1972. On Page 36 is a facsimile of the verse in Rudolf Steiner's handwriting; Page 37 has the above translation by George and Mary Adams.

No title appeared for this verse and so "Inner Being Cup of Light" is simply taken from words in lines 4 and 5.

The index reference in *Verses and Meditations* says that Rudolf Steiner gave this verse personally to someone with the initials of J. L. in the autumn of 1914. EK