

Verse 17 contemplation is followed by mood descriptions of the constellations and planets as experienced in Rudolf Steiner's "The Twelve Moods." Called for in V. 17, this meditation can help us know and appreciate our Creator's wide Universe that is part of us and we part of it.

Commentary and translations speak of the I in a state open to us when we in vivid consciousness take deeply into our will-nature God's created wide expanse of nature. To be able to "hear the Cosmic World" indicates our advancing soul faculties—a higher consciousness as we learn to build and understand "Imaginations" in the astral realm—as Verse 16 so firmly commanded us to do!



The sun with loving light
Makes bright for me each day;
The soul with spirit power
Gives strength unto my limbs.
In sunlight shining clear I revere,
Oh God, the strength of humankind,
Which thou has planted in my soul,
That I with all my might,
May love to work and learn.
From these stream light and strength
To thee rise love and thanks.

Rudolf Steiner

Rudolf Steiner's Calendar of the Soul Verse 17: To find in future, Me in you

Eloise Krivosheia

Verse 17, representing the Ego or "I", relates to **Condition 4, "Balance the truths you stand for in your soul with an open heart for the needs of the outer world."** Reflecting the "moods" within the zodiac as in Steiner's "The Twelve Moods" verses," we are sidereally now in Cancer in the "mood" of the **Spirit**. Tropically, July 21 - August 20, the "mood" of Leo is the mood of the **Soul**. (See page 3)

We may see the "Cosmic Word" in Line 1 as being more than the Christ. It's the Father force, too, for Christ made the Father available to us. We remember His words, "Him in Me" and "Yea, greater things you shall do, because I go to the Father." It is this Cosmic Word that speaks so lovingly and powerfully to us in this verse, urging us to take His Being into the depths of our soul and spirit.

Es spricht das Weltenwort,
Das ich durch Sinnestore
In Seelengründe durfte führen:

Erfülle deine Geistestiefen
Mit meinen Weltenweiten,
Zu finden einstens mich in dir.

original German by Rudolf Steiner



David Newbatt

Thus speaks the cosmic Word,
Which I through gates of senses
Might lead into the depths of soul:

Fill full your depth of spirit
From out my width of worlds,
To find in future, Me in you.

tr. by Daisy Aldan

We need to observe well what is spread out around us. "Weltenwort", the Cosmic Word, the Gods' creation, is the outer expression of all World Creative Thinking. Thus, through what I take in through my senses in a meaningful, thoughtful way, the Cosmic Word "speaks" to me. With Christ living in my thinking, I am granted to lead these thoughts into my heart, into the depths of soul. There, filled with the Spirit from the wide universe, I will one day recognize that my I, my true Self, is in essence 'like unto' the Cosmic I.

Through the gift of senses we take in God's creation—Christ's "width of worlds," *Weltenweiten* Line 5. But we are meant to come to know the Universe with love and reverence, including more *consciously* to experience our own will, feeling, and thinking. We can then say, 'My senses reveal the world to me, and reveal also me in God's created world.' Earnestly, lovingly we take in the Christ Being; thereby to find the Christ in ourselves.



Claude Monet

Thus speaks the Cosmic Word,
Which I by grace was free to lead
Through senses' portals into depths
of soul:

"Imbue your spirit depths
With My wide world horizons
To find in future time Myself in you."

tr. by Brigitte Knack



David Newbatt

We know that the Cosmic Creative Word is in the Sunshine, carrying as well as Sun's physical light, Christ's light and love that nourishes. We need this light in our heart in order that we may give love. When our thinking "goes through the heart", our word, our speech, too, can radiate the Sunshine that nourishes soul and spirit.

"Thinking that goes through the heart" is implicit in the verse. We may ask ourselves if deep within our heart do we feel that soul and spirit are united? This verse carries thinking's "first trial" —to learn that always we must let our thoughts go through the heart before we bring thought to action. In this way of thinking Christ lives—and in this way the last line of the verse can be fulfilled —for the Cosmic Word "To find in future, Me in you."

Are you aware of what you've seen this spring and summer? This is a Parsifal question!

The kernel of our senses originated long ago during Saturn evolution. But we are permitted to educate our senses so that now, even now, we can bring a higher consciousness of Spring and Summer into our soul.

Through Christ's gift of our evolving I consciousness, we are gradually able to understand the deeds of the hierarchies in what they've given us throughout evolution as they've carried out the will of the Creator God. We begin to grasp what the earth is —the result of past evolutionary deeds from Saturn, Sun, Moon, Earth incarnations. We gain a deeper "Imagination" of the astonishing truth that the entirety of cosmic vastness dwells within us, just as we dwell within the vastness of the cosmos. For everything we sense and think about is no longer outside us. It does enter and become part of our inner self.

So speaks the cosmic Word,
Which I, through the senses' doors,
Might guide into my inmost soul:

'Inspire your spirit-depths
With all my cosmic breadth,
And find in time Myself in you.'

tr. by John Thomson



Thus speaks the cosmic Word
That I by grace through senses' portals
Have led into my inmost soul:

Imbue your spirit depths
With my wide world-horizons
To find in future time myself in you.

tr. by Ruth and Hans Pusch.

Do we hear the Spirit calling? Can we access and think beyond the surface of Nature, beyond our ordinary thinking? When the verse says, "Fill full your depth of spirit," it is in a way saying, "I've shown you world evolution. Have you made meaning of it? Have you taken it in?" "**Depth of spirit**" conveys **willed thinking** as used in *The Philosophy of Freedom*. Feel the power wielding here, like a resolution that needs to be carried over into Verse 18, Verse of Spirit Self. So we may ask, "in meditating this verse have I made a resolution?"

In *Leading Thoughts* #18-19 Rudolf Steiner wrote: "In relation to the World, our soul is like a dreamer if it does not pay heed to the Spirit at work within it. The Spirit awakens the dreams of the soul from

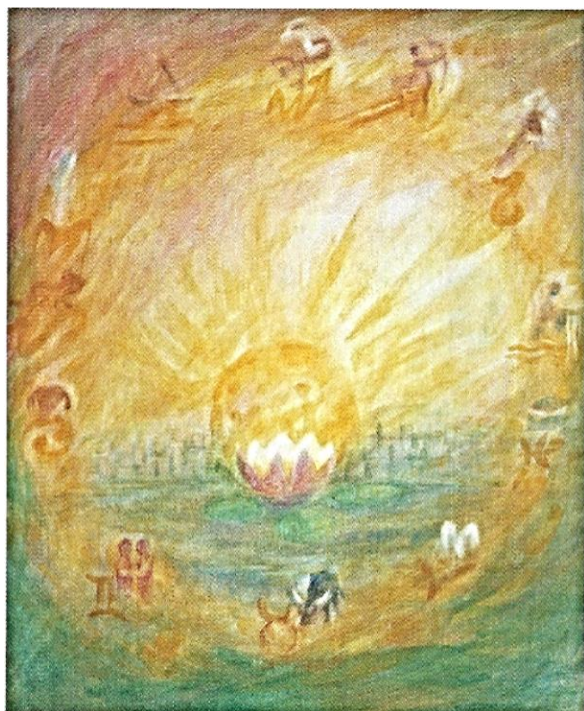
its ceaseless weaving in the inner life to active participation in the World Word where our true Being has its origin. As the dreamer shuts the self off from the surrounding physical world and entwines self into self, so would the soul lose connection with the Spirit of the World in whom it has its source, **if it turned a deaf ear to the awakening calls of the Spirit within it.**"

Rudolf Steiner, speaking of the need to enliven and broaden our thinking, pointed out that people rarely think livingly. Instead, they think in words, in static forms, not with mobile thinking. Since, in general, all of us are stuck in thought forms, we need to learn to bring movement into our thinking. (GA151 Berlin, 1914)

The Soul Calendar speaks in an enlivening way of our soul's movement in inner experience through the year's 52 weeks, gradually raising our consciousness. If you would like to delve deeper into the moods of soul, the following rather long section deals with Rudolf Steiner's *The Twelve Moods**, which speak in a very different but also enlivening way of **our soul's movement in inner experience through every 24 hours**. Certain lines may speak especially boldly to you.

Roberta van Schilfgaarde highlighted this movement as follows. "We know the Earth completes a rotation around its axis every 24 hours of every day so that we move (even if unconsciously) during these 24 hours through all the signs of the zodiac. Thus every two hours or so, impulses from a new "sign" rise in our consciousness. At six a.m., the beginning of the day, Aries arises. At noon, Cancer; at six p.m., Libra; and at midnight, the sign of Capricorn arises."

Just as we experience different inner moods at the different seasonal times of the year, in a comparable way, our spiritual orientation moves through the zodiac during the 24 hours of day and night. We can become more aware of this inner movement and deeply so with the help of *The Twelve Moods* as they characterize the two hour changes in soul mood.



In his four-lecture book, *Human and Cosmic Thought*, particularly in the second and third lectures, Rudolf Steiner describes how the twelve philosophical world-outlooks connect with the signs of the zodiac, and the seven world-outlook moods connect with the planetary spheres.

A review from the back cover of this book points to the extraordinary relevance of these ideas for helping us cope with modern world differences: "Rudolf Steiner demonstrates that there are twelve main philosophical standpoints, and that the future of philosophy rests not upon defending one and refuting the others, but in learning to experience the validity of them all. **What convinces us of the truth of a certain point of view? Why do we find it difficult to comprehend viewpoints that differ from our own? What are the inner foundations of our knowledge?**

. . . An appreciation of the variety of possible worldviews not only sharpens and makes our own powers of thinking more flexible, but also helps us to overcome narrow-minded biases while promoting tolerance of others and receptivity to their views. . . Each viewpoint is colored by a particular "soul mood" that influences the way we pursue knowledge. . ."

In that we all need to become broadminded, "unstuck" from one-sidedness in thinking, it is not surprising that Steiner first gave *The Twelve Moods* verses to eurythmists, artists of movement, for these verses seem meant to help all of us bring mobility into our thinking, into the sphere of the Spirits of Movement as we journey with planet Earth during the course of the day.

In contemplating new ways to think of the zodiac and the planets, *perhaps The Twelve Moods*, with the 12 world outlooks and the seven 'planetary moods', may be helpful for a deeper understanding of the Calendar verses. In her article, *Thoughts on the Twelve Moods*, Roberta van Schilfgaarde first offers brief planetary characterizations followed by the planetary "outlooks," then the "outlook" of each constellation.

First, **planetary** characterizations may help us appreciate more deeply these "spiritual relatives."

The **Sun** leads us into our practical daily life and as well connects us with our higher being when at night it gives us over to our cosmic self.

Venus lovingly integrates us into the world. "Without her love all is naught," is a line from one of Steiner's verses, for it is her love that unites with the Christ, the power of becoming.

Mercury's mercurial activity—more than three rapid revolutions around the Sun during the course of the year—brings down to daily life the underlying cosmic thought aspect of what we have prepared for our day. The verses over and over unite Mercury's line in the verses with the Mars line.

Mars' thinking, by itself, would tend to make us earthly thinkers only. It is a task of our present age to harmonize the thinking of Mercury and Mars. Mars recapitulates the ancient Moon evolution, during which we received our astral body. Mars has given us the capacity to know the spirit, which we can raise to a higher level with Mercury's help, so that we can give expression to the Holy Spirit.

Jupiter, carrier of the Son forces, recapitulates the ancient Sun evolution, during which we received our etheric body of light. Jupiter is also preparing the future Jupiter evolution, hence its name. It seeks to bring its light into the darkness that through human error has crept into our etheric bodies. Jupiter works in every verse together with the Father forces of Saturn, emphasized in the rhyming of their end words.

Saturn, the Keeper of Karma, recapitulates the ancient Saturn evolution during which we received our physical body of will and warmth. United with Jupiter's light, Saturn helps us bring forth our own colorful individuality into our creative daily work.

Planets—World-Outlook Moods, or What does each Planet 'speak'.

Sun—Empiricism: The origin of all knowledge is external experience in the world.

Venus—Mysticism: Direct knowledge of God or of spiritual truth, etc., is attainable through immediate intuition or instinct and in a way differing from ordinary sense perception or rational thought.

Mercury—Transcendentalism: Outside the soul and beyond anything the soul can experience, the essential being of things is hidden and transcendent to knowledge.

Mars—Voluntarism: Will is the dominant factor in experience and in the constitution of the world.

Jupiter—Logicism: The soul is able to connect thoughts, concepts and ideas with one another. Reason can accord with the inferences drawn from the connection of events and circumstances.

Saturn—Gnosis: Positive knowledge, especial to spiritual truth, is grasped through certain cognitional forces, not through the senses.

Moon—Occultism: The world is Maya, and the inner being of things must be sought by another way than through external sense-perception and the ordinary means of cognition.

Zodiac—Philosophical World-Outlooks, or What does each Constellation 'speak'.

Aries—Idealism: The mind is of central importance. Matter and the world of material phenomena have no real meaning in themselves. Moral ideas also have validity. There must be an independent realm where ideas can live, toward which the human soul can direct itself.

Taurus—Rationalism: Reason is a source of knowledge in itself, superior to and independent of sense impressions. Only ideas that can be read from the outside world have validity.

Gemini—Mathematism: Measure and number/mathematical formulae provide the only valid way of knowing the universe.

Cancer—Materialism: The facts of the universe can be sufficiently explained by the existence and nature of matter and its laws.

Leo—Sensualism: There is an intuitive, instinctive knowing through sense perception, including aesthetic or emotional perception.

Virgo—Phenomenalism: Knowledge must be limited to phenomena—appearances only. It is impossible to know whether there is existence outside the phenomenal.

Libra—Realism: Universal ideas (general concepts) are not mere words but refer to quite definite realities (the opposite of Rationalism). Objects both of sense perception and of cognition exist in their own right and can be known to the mind.

Scorpio—Dynamism: The universe consists essentially of forces that can be known (for instance, magnetism and gravity) behind all phenomena.

Sagittarius—Monadism: The universe consists of individual units.

Capricorn—Spiritism: Genuine reality is found only in the Spirit. Matter is only illusion.

Aquarius—Pneumatism: The world is not only ensouled, but Spirit or Spirits exist.

Pisces—Psychism: The fact that there are ideas in the world means that there must be Beings who are actively psychic in the outside world, in whom ideas can live.

From our LA Branch Eurythmist, Andrew Dzedulionis, we learn helpful indications regarding the eurythmy figures shown in the following diagram.



The Zodiac is connected with the consonants and our physical body. Each outside eurythmic figure is a gesture of its constellation sign. The highlighted area shows the body part where the sign manifests its strengths and weaknesses.

For example, in the Ares red sector, the head is highlighted. The represented movement of the inside figure relates to the "sound" of that Constellation.

Aries sounds "V". But in the green sector, Cancer relates to the chest area and sounds "F".

Vowels represent feelings and emotions, and are connected with the planets, not the Zodiac.

***The Twelve Moods by Rudolf Steiner GA 40**

In these next 84 concise lines Rudolf Steiner reveals the "mood" of the planets as they progress through the day within the different constellations, from sun rising to setting and through the night. The color of the lines is my attempt to reflect the color usually associated with a particular planet.

Planetary moods can be interpreted in a myriad of ways: what they tell us, what the planets concern themselves with, and much more. Knowing these "moods" and placing ourselves in harmony with them helps us to go through life more effectively at the physical and also more importantly at soul spiritual levels.

Aries:

Arise, oh shining light,
Take hold of growth and becoming,
Lay hold of the weaving of forces,
Yourself ray forth, life-wakening.
In face of resistance, gain;
In stream of time, disperse;
Oh shine of light, abide!

Erstehe, o Uchtesschein,
Erfasse das Werdewesen,
Ergreife das Kräfteweben,
Erstrahle dich Sein-erweckend.
Am Widerstand gewinne,
Im Zeitenstrom zerinne.
O Uchtesschein, verbleibe!

Taurus:

Brighten, oh glory of being,
Reach into the power of becoming,
And weave the thread of life
Through worlds imbued with being,
In mindful revelation,
Into radiant life-awareness.
Oh glory of being, appear!

Erhelle dich, Wesensglanz,
Erfühle die Werdekraft,
Verwebe den Lebensfaden
In ivesendes Weltensein,
In sinniges Offenbaren,
In leuchtendes Seins-Gewahren.
O Wesensglanz, erscheine!

Gemini:

Reveal yourself, life of sun,
Stir up what tends to rest,
Embrace what desires to strive
Towards a mighty prevailing of life,
Towards a blessed knowing of worlds,
Towards a fruitful maturing of growth.
Oh life of sun, endure!

Erschliesse dich, Sonnesein,
Bewege den Ruhetrieb,
Umschliesse die Strebelust
Zu mächtigem Lebewalten,
Zu seligem Weltbegreifen,
Zu fruchtendem Werdereifen.
O Sonnesein, verharrel.

Libra:

The worlds are sustaining worlds,
And being perceives itself within being,
Existence bounds itself with existence.
And being stirs and causes being
To pour out deeds that unfold,
To rest in world-enjoyment.
Oh worlds, uphold the worlds!

Die Welten erhalten Welten,
Im Wesen erlebt sich Wesen,
Im Sein umschliesst sich Sein.
Und Wesen erwirkt Wesen
Zu werdendem Tatergiessen,
In ruhendem Weltgeniessen.
O Welten, traget Welten!

Scorpio:

Existence consumes the being,
Yet in being, existence is held.
In activity, growth disappears,
In becoming activity pauses.
In worlds that prevail and punish,
In the chastening that shapes and forms,
All-being sustains the beings.

Das Sein, es verzehrt das Wesen,
Im Wesen doch halt sich Sein.
Im Wirken entschwindet Werden,
Im Werden verharret Wirken.
In strafendem Weltenwalten,
Im ahndenden Sich-Gestalten
Das Wesen erhalt die Wesen.

Sagittarius:

Becoming achieves the power 'to be',
Into what is, the might of becoming dies.
Achievement resolves the desire to strive
Into prevailing will-force of life.
In dying, there ripens prevailing of worlds,
Forms disappear within forms.
What has come to be, may it feel what is!

Das Werden erreicht die Seinsgewalt,
Im Seienden erstirbt die Werdemacht.
Erreichtes beschliesst die Strebelust
In waltender Lebenswillenskraft.
Im Sterben erreift das Weitenwalten,
Gestalten verschwinden in Gestalten.
Das Seiende fühle das Seiende!

Cancer:

You resting, luminous glow,
Engender warmth of life,
Enwarm the life of soul
To meet with vigor each test
And permeate itself with spirit
In quiet, light-outstreaming.
You luminous glow, gain strength!

Du ruhender Leuchteglanz,
Erzeuge Lebenswärme,
Erwärme Seelenleben
Zu kräftigem Sich-Bewähren,
Zu geistigem Sich-Durchdringen,
In ruhigem Lichterbringen.
Du Leuchteglanz, erstarke!

Leo:

Invigorate with senses' might
Matured existence of all worlds,
Perceptive element of beings,
Toward the firm resolve 'to be'.
In the surging shine of life,
In the prevailing pains of growth,
With senses' might, arise!

Durchströme mit Sinn Gewalt
Gewordenes Weltensein,
Erfühlende Wesenschaft
Zu wollendem Seinentschluss.
In strömendem Lebensschein,
In waltender Werdepein,
Mit Sinn Gewalt erstehe!

Virgo:

Behold the worlds, oh soul!
Let the soul take hold of worlds,
Let the spirit lay hold of being,
Work out of powers of life,
Upon will-experience, build,
In blossoming worlds, put trust.
Oh soul, comprehend the beings!

Die Welten erschau, Seele!
Die Seele ergreife Welten,
Der Geist erfasse Wesen,
Aus Lebensgewalten wirke,
Im Willenserleben baue,
Dem Weitererblüh'n vertraue.
O Seele, erkenne die Wesen!

Capricorn:

May what is coming, rest on what has been.
May what has been, surmise what is to come,
For a vigorous present existence.
Through inward life-withstanding
May world-beings' guard grow strong,
May life's working might blossom forth,
May what has been endure what is to come!

Das Künftige ruhe auf Vergangenem.
Vergangenes erfühle Künftiges
Zu kräftigem Gegenwartsein.
Im inneren Lebenswiderstand
Erstarke die Weltenwesenwacht,
Erbühe die Lebenswirkensmacht.
Vergangenes ertrage Künftiges!

Aquarius:

May what is bounded yield to the boundless.
What feels the lack of bounds, may it create
Bounds for itself in its depths;
May it raise itself in the current,
As wave, flowing forth, sustaining itself,
In becoming, shaping itself to existence.
Set yourself bounds, oh boundless!

Begrenztes sich opfere Grenzenlosem.
Was Grenzen vermisst, es gründe
In Tiefen sich selber Grenzen;
Es hebe im Strome sich,
Als Welle verfließend sich haltend,
Im Werden zum Sein sich gestaltend.
Begrenze dich, o Grenzenloses.

Pisces:

In what is lost, may the loss find itself,
In what is gained, may the gain lose itself,
In what is comprehended, may comprehending seek itself
And sustain itself by sustaining.
Through becoming, uplifted to existence,
Through existing, interwoven with the becoming.
May the loss be gain in itself!

Im Verlorenen finde sich Verlust,
Im Gewinn verliere sich Gewinn,
Im Begriffenen suche sich das Greifen
Und erhalte sich im Erhalten.
Durch Werden zum Sein erhoben,
Durch Sein zu dem Werden verwoben,
Der Verlust sei Gewinn für sich!

This translation is by Alice Wulsin, Gerald Karnow, and Ruth Pusch.