

Rudolf Steiner's Calendar of the Soul Verse 21: Light of Intuition Within

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Verse 21 relates to the second member of the human being, the Etheric, and to Condition 2, "Feel ourselves to be a member of humanity as a whole with shared responsibility for everything that occurs." This should result in a feeling of calmness toward others and the world. Here also continues the fourth step in the "Christianized" Eightfold Path, which is Right Action.

This week we may recognize that we are feeling a new power within us -an "unknown force that ripens" and which, gaining strength, "grants or lends me to myself." This unknown power (*macht*) is the Christ strength, described in *Occult or Esoteric Science*, Ch. 5, that helps us to find and see our true self.

Ich fühle fruchtend fremde
Macht
Sich stärkend mir mich
selbst verleihn,
Den Keim empfind ich
reifend
Und Ahnung lichtvoll weben
Im Innern an der Selbstheit
Macht.

original German by Rudolf Steiner



George Inness

I feel a foreign power bearing
fruit
Ever-strengthening, to lead my
self back to me.
I have perceived that ripening
seed,
And now my intuition, full of light,
Weaves within me the power of
my own self.

tr. by Tom Mellett

Now I want to make my own —this force that so fruitfully strengthens. I sense, I perceive (*empfind*) that the new seed within me, now ripening, brings for my selfhood's might (*macht*), a new capacity to create myself. Now is when this new seed, my new soul capacity, will sprout and grow, **for autumn is "spring" for the soul.** Nature's autumn forces of withering and dying are not those of the human soul !

My Ahnung, my intuition, in weaving, light-filled action works to help my ego bring to consciousness my higher self. In Line 4, it feels like a knowing filled with wisdom —that which is an understanding and experience of eternal truth and eternal good. Permeated by the Christ "for my selfhood's power", it will form and fill my consciousness soul. Joyfully I sense the Christ weaving this new "light" in me. I am gaining power to know, to recognize my true self. I feel great gratitude for Christ's love, powering my purifying efforts in astral and soul members.



I feel a strange power
bearing fruit
Whose strength bestows
myself on me;
I sense the seed maturing,
Light-filled anticipation
weaving
Within me to make selfhood
strong.

tr. by John B. Thomson



As Karl König has described, if we have taken up the warnings of last week's verse and have succeeded in sacrificing our egotistical lower self, then we have made a space for our new higher self to come in and begin development that shall enable the birth of our spirit child at Christmas.

From dimming our lower ego, our egotistical self, the light of worlds can begin to shine within us. A feeling of new life and activity begins to arise within the realm of the soul.

Meditating further we may contemplate the *meaning* of our cosmic 'thought flight' into the heights of last summer's solstice. As described by Eleanor Merry, our soaring thought has been impregnated "with the sublime *Morality* of ordered law that surges through the Universe." And now this week our "fertilized thinking" has come down into our Self where it finds the Light, weaving within our two-fold nature. It feels blessed and fructified by the Light and the seed germ now ripening within.

Merry then asks the great question: "How can this *Morality of the Spirit* become *Motive* in the human being?" She suggests recalling the final lines of the great Christmas Foundation Stone Meditation where we pray the Light of Cosmic Being for our free and active *Will*. When thus imbued, our *Thinking* will be true; and the seed ripening within us will develop in harmony with the Words of Truth (the Christ) which placed it there.

I feel a strange creative
power
Grow stronger as it lends me
to myself.
I feel the life-seed ripen
And inner vision, full of light,
is weaving
On the power of Self within.

tr. by Isabel Grieve



I feel an unknown force that
ripens,
Which gaining strength, grants
me myself;
I sense the seed maturing
And boding light-filled weaving
Within me for my selfhood's
power.

tr. by. Daisy Aldan.

Calendar of the Soul Verse 32

The **polar opposite** verse from Verse 21 is Verse 32, half way between Michaelmas and Christmas. In this translation by Ruth and Hans Pusch, we can see in Verse 32 a completion of the mood of Verse 21 that begins the process of bringing together higher self and lower ego from whom the new selfhood must be forged that wills to give service to the world.

"It is the human being who must reach a stage of compensation, of balance between the opposites, enhancing the polarities to forces of inner growth and maturity. It is a most invigorating development when it is practiced year after year in faithful succession. By combining the two corresponding verses in the mind, we gain a new insight into the workings of that which is *outside* and that which lives *within*." Hans Pusch

Ich fühle fruchtend eigne Kraft
Sich stärkend mich der Welt verleihn;
Mein Eigenwesen fühl ich kraftend
Zur Klarheit sich zu wenden
Im Lebensschicksalsweben.

I feel my own force, bearing fruit
And gaining strength to give me to the world.
My inmost being I feel charged with power
To turn with clearer insight
Toward the weaving of life's destiny.

Through meditating the Calendar, we reach a level of higher consciousness each year.