

## Rudolf Steiner's Calendar of the Soul Verse 28 – Awakening Spirit

Eloise Krivosheia

**Verse 28** relates to the second member of the human being, the Etheric, and to Condition 2, which is "Feel ourselves to be a part of the whole of life." We are in the third quarter of the year, the Astral, which is the third member of human beings, and we experience now especially the Consciousness Soul, our third soul member. This verse relates also to the fifth step of the Eight Fold Path, "Right Vocation."

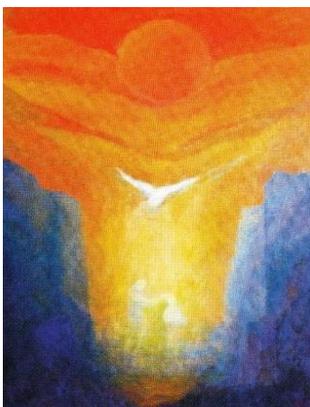
In the first lines of Verse 28, we hear the soul ring forth with joy and gratitude in its recognition that **Sun-powers** have entered with life-giving splendor the inner world of its own being.

Now, instead of the world's width, we feel our own breadth. We feel our "seed gift of summer" has been liberated from its sheath and has begun to shine forth with a new moral, creative power. We feel a lighting up of an inner birth of spirit!

Thoughts whose origin is divine now permeate the Soul, which receives them, and in an expansion of its understanding, is eager to pour its thinking power out over the dark riddles of life. Desires and wishes find their fulfilment when their true nature is revealed by new "sunlight", new "sun might of the soul". But I know, too, that unravelling life's riddles doesn't just happen. I have now to do something energetic myself.

Ich kann im Innern neu belebt  
Erfühlen eignen Wesens Weiten  
Und kraftefüllt Gedankenstrahlen  
Aus Seelensonnenmacht  
Den Lebensrätseln lösend spenden,  
Erfüllung manchem Wunsche leihen,  
Dem Hoffnung schon die Schwingen  
lähmte.

*original German by Rudolf Steiner*



*Ninetta Sombart*

I can, enlivened now within,  
Feel my own being's breadth,  
And, filled with strength, shed rays of  
thought  
From sun-might of the soul  
To solve the riddles life presents  
And grant fulfilment now to wishes  
Whose wings have long been lamed by  
hope.

*tr. by Brigitte Knaack*

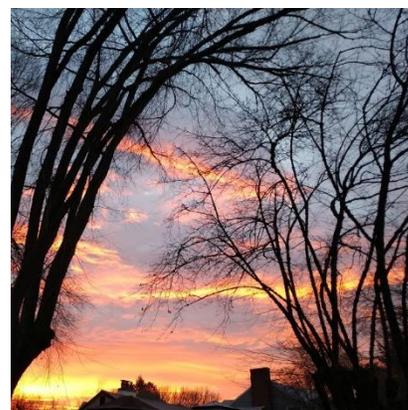
How "hope" can be a laming influence may at first seem a puzzling idea. But when it is a hope that someone, or some spiritual being, is going "to fix my problems", that all I need to do is suffer through until someone or something lifts my burdens, then this kind of hope is a weakening force.

It is when with spiritual knowledge working through one's own strength, that understanding and solutions are achieved and hope can take its rightful place—as we shall see in next week's verse.



I can, revived within myself,  
Experience my being's breadth  
And filled with strength, spend rays  
of thought,  
From sun-might of the soul,  
Resolving enigmas of life,  
Whose wings before, by hope, were  
lamed.

*tr. by Daisy Aldan*



Another aspect of the soul may be considered —that is, the effect of suffering and pain on the astral body. Suffering may be a catalyst for change; but only when the Ego itself works on making the change. We want to achieve greater self-consciousness—and with this verse we experience with some happiness a fuller understanding of our thinking's power to achieve higher soul potential.

It is a great comfort and sense of freedom to know that with the knowledge of spiritual science we, with heightened Ego consciousness, can really see into many enigmas of life—instead of perhaps just hoping or expecting science to tell us.

The real strength of this creativity takes effect after Christmas. Now we are still weaving—creating, overcoming obstacles, tackling new projects. And with remembrance of the moral catharsis experienced in last week's verse, a most important task now is raising our own consciousness to become a "temple for the Spirit." Yes, this is our task now.

I feel my being, vivified anew,  
Widen to far horizons of its own.  
The force and radiance of my thought  
Coming from soul's sun power --  
Can solve the mysteries of life,  
And grant fulfillment now to wishes  
Whose wings have long been lamed by  
hope.

*tr. by Ruth and Hans Pusch*



New life within me lets me feel  
the vastness of my True Being  
My thinking, filled with solar force,  
illuminates my thoughtful soul  
revealing mysteries of life and  
granting flight to secret wishes,  
whose wings were often lamed by  
futile hopes.

*tr. by Dennis Klocek*

(An interesting verse to compare with Verse 28 is Verse 17. You know, perhaps, that the rhythm of the sun (and its sun spots) is about 11. Verse 17 plus 11 is Verse 28. The sun's magnetic poles reverse every 11 years. NSO expects a new reversal in about a year. The last time both poles completed their switch was 2012-2013. Reversals can take several years to complete.)

## Calendar of the Soul Verses 28 and 25

The corresponding verse of Verse 28 is Verse 25. In this translation, by Giseler Weber, it seems a seriousness of responsibility was experienced in Verse 25 compared to the brightness now able to rise up out of the soul.

Ich darf nun mir gehören  
Und leuchtend breiten Innenlicht  
In Raumes- und in Zeitenfinsternis.  
Zum Schläfe drängt natürlich Wesen,  
Der Seele Tiefen sollen wachen  
Und wachend tragen Sonnengluten  
In kalte Winterfluten.

I may now to myself belong  
And shinningly spread inner light  
Into the dark of space and time.  
Toward sleep all nature forces tend;  
The deeps of soul shall be awake  
And waking carry solar glowing  
Into cold Winter's flowing.

In this second half of the year we may gain especially from noticing how the corresponding verses permeate each other, opening up deeper meanings in each. It is interesting each week as suggested by H. D. van Goudoever when we hear the corresponding verses, to be aware how indeed our imaginative consciousness changes to a more inspired consciousness. As we know, of course, looking at the corresponding verses is only one of the many ways of finding treasure within the Calendar of the Soul.

Through meditating the verses, the soul experiences new wisdoms coming forth each year.