

Rudolf Steiner's Calendar of the Soul Verse 37 – Transforming all Life

Eloise Krivosheia

Verse 37 relates to the Spirit Self, as yet an undeveloped spiritual member of the human being, and to Condition 5, "Steadfastness in **carrying out a resolution once it is taken.**"

As we are still in the powerful astral quarter of the year, our preparation to heighten our Christmas awareness, our experience of that higher self brought into the world by the Luke child, finds us in **Verse 37 aspiring blissfully, resolutely, to bear the Light of Christ into the darkness of the world's winter night.** German use of "selig" – blissful, blessed, leads to the feeling that our heart experiences a very warm and close connection now to the Light of the Spirit, to the Christ.

How short the days now seem with darkness covering the land earlier and earlier. But with growing inner light, now is the time when the "I," with heightened consciousness, wishes strongly to "carry the light of the spirit" into a darkening world where earthly senses do not know spiritual light.

Consciously, we want our "seeds of soul" to take root in "cosmic grounds", attaining thus a shining inner light. What seeds we so lovingly plant—our thoughts, feelings, deeds, will bear earthly fruit "filled with sparkling Cosmic life". Ardently, too, soul's heart's desire is that God's Word, Christ's creative impulse, shall *resound through the darkness of earthly senses, transfiguring all that is.*

Zu tragen Geisteslicht in
Weltenwinternacht

Erstrebet selig meines Herzens
Trieb,

Dass leuchtend Seelenkeime

In Weltengründen wurzeln,

Und Gotteswort im Sinnesdunkel

Verklärend alles Sein durchtönt.

original German by Rudolf Steiner



This is the blissful striving of my
heart's desire,

To carry the light of the spirit

Into the cosmic winter night,

So that sparkling seeds of my soul

May take root in cosmic soil—

And that the Word of God may resound

Through the darkness of my senses,

Transfiguring entire existence.

tr. by Tom Mellett

Our spirit consciousness is rooted in the spiritual world, but as now our soul in higher consciousness "hears" the Word of God resounding throughout all life on Earth, our transfigured viewpoint, transfigures Nature itself! Our conscious resolution is now firm to carry Christ's light into our deeds.

Everywhere we see a certain perfection in Nature, but could it be that Nature may attain an even higher level if experienced by human thinking, human appreciation?



David Newbatt

To bear the light of Spirit to winter-
night of world

Aspires blissfully my heart's desire,

That soul-seeds luminous

In cosmic grounds be rooted,

And godly Word in senses' darkness

Resound, transfiguring all life.

tr. by Daisy Aldan



"A resounding of the weaving together of the tones of the 'music of the spheres' with creative Cosmic Word." This description from Rudolf Steiner's *The Mysteries of the East*, February 5, 1913, gives a further picture for Verse 37's last lines. Taken up by Karl König he hears the resounding of seasonal tones or voices in the four parts of the year, and likens them to the four-fold stream of blood that flows to and from the heart through its four chambers. Its valves he relates to two seasonal soul "thresholds".

König then suggests that in hearing the soul in its yearly cycle rhythmically receiving and releasing a tonal stream like the beating of a heart, we can experience it as "the heart of the ever-changing seasons". Briefly to paraphrase, in Spring, youthful tones ring out, broaden into many trickles (capillaries), and gradually peak at St. John's to transform into the steady, rich flow of Summer.

At Michaelmas, a threshold must be crossed. Then with rising strength comes the spiritual air of Winter, for a transformation occurs in Autumn, and life is renewed in preparation for Christmas. After which, a self-certainty flows onward to Spring where there is another threshold, that of leading through death to the Resurrection at Easter.

Rudolf Steiner spoke about these mysteries of the cycle of the year within us and in the world: "If you develop spiritual hearing, the tones of summer and winter can be heard ringing simultaneously in the human being. . . The whole surrounding universe also resounds to us in time . [and]. . there rings forth what resounds from our own being, as from a center, a single point." (Man and the World of Stars, December 29, 1922)

König sees the world's fourfold cycle as "a cosmic ritual which the human soul learns to celebrate step by step when it endeavors to use the Soul Calendar as a guide."

To carry spirit Light into world-
winter's night
Is now the blissful striving of my
heart,
That shining seeds of soul
May root in world foundations,
And God's Word sound through
sense's dark,
Transfiguring existence.

tr. by John F. Gardner



To carry Spirit-light into world-
winter-night
Is blissful urge of my aspiring heart,
That seeds of soul, illumining,
Take root in Cosmic grounds
And God's own Word in senses'
darkness
Resounds, transfiguring, through all
that is.

tr. by Brigitte Knaack

Corresponding Calendar of the Soul Verse 16

In July, Verse 16, translated by Tom Mellett, we learn intuitively —that is, through Ahnen —that we are to protect the Spirit gifts we have received, growing them in our soul's soil, so that their fruit may lead in future to our higher self. We see now how Prophetic it is of Verse 37.

Zu bergen Geistgeschenk im Innern,
Gebietet strenge mir mein Ahnen,
Dass reifend Gottesgaben
In Seelengründen fruchtend
Der Selbstheit Früchte bringen.

My intuition firmly commands me:
"Harbor the spirit's treasures within you
so that these ripening gifts of God,
growing in the soil of your soul,
may bring forth the very fruits
of your own selfhood."

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