

Rudolf Steiner's Calendar of the Soul Verse 38 – Birth of Spirit Child

Eloise Krivosheia

Verse 38 relates to Life Spirit, an as yet undeveloped spiritual member of the human being, and to Condition 6, "Feel Gratitude for everything that falls to your lot."

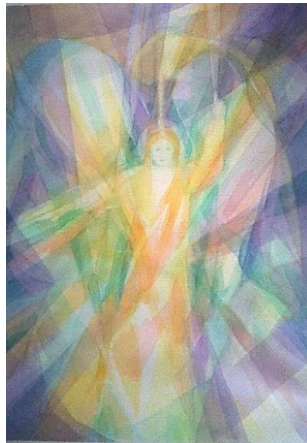
Our challenge during Advent has been to meet our earthly self with the transformative forces of the Light, the true light of the Sun so that we may be prepared for the ever renewing birth of the higher Self at Christmas, that Self first born in the Nathan child of the Luke gospel. In Christmas week the miracle is to be accomplished.

In Verse 38 we meet what may be surprising, that our thoughts, our Spirit Child has been enchanted but is now freed. Hope, now fruitful, which in corresponding Verse 15 could only "lame" because our higher thinking, our higher Self, lay "enchanted" in the dreaminess of summer. It had not yet awakened; the self had not yet earned through its own efforts the needed maturing transformation.

Yet, as we felt summer's radiance and warmth of heart, "conception" for heaven's fruit of hope had truly occurred; and thus in time to come, when all has been prepared in womb of soul, a further step can be attained toward the birth of our higher self, our spirit child.

Ich fühle wie entzaubert
Das Geisteskind im Seelenschoss;
Es hat in Herzenshelligkeit
Gezeugt das heil'ge Weltenwort
Der Hoffnung Himmelsfrucht,
Die jubelnd wächst in
Weltenfernen
Aus meines Wesens Gottesgrund.

original German by Rudolf Steiner



Iris Sullivan My Higher Self

I feel the Spirit Child
Set free from spell in womb of soul;
The holy cosmic Word conceived
In clarity of heart
The heaven-fruit of hope,
Which joyous grows toward farthest
worlds
Out of my being's godly ground.

tr. by Daisy Aldan

After meeting the transforming challenges of Advent, our thinking has been lifted to higher clarity, and we have earned the right of hope for "heaven's fruit," which now awakened from its summer enchantment, can grow, rejoicing, into farthest worlds. The awakened soul, archetypal Madonna, is able to give birth to the higher self. The last line, "out of my being's godly ground", seems to indicate that we can be freed during this holy season from the worldly lures and traps of Lucifer, Ahriman and their minions. But always, we need to be wakeful, to stand by our highest thinking with Christ.



Iris Sullivan

I feel, free of enchantment,
The spirit child in my soul's core;
In heart-high gladness has
The holy cosmic Word engendered
The heavenly fruit of hope,
Which grows rejoicing into
farthest worlds
Out of my being's godly roots.

tr. by Ruth and Hans Pusch



Iris Sullivan

We have prepared during these 4 weeks of Advent to heighten our Christmas awareness, our experience of that higher self that we can call our "Spirit Child". Summer's experience of imaginative, somewhat dreaming life enabled the soul to feel a higher degree of cosmic reality and the I felt the weaving of the spirit enchanted in a beautiful world. The breathing out of the Earth during summer allowed the spirit *conception* to take place in the soul of the spheres. That conception, now matured in the human womb, can be birthed at Christmas, and living in our heart, may ever be renewed -ever in a higher state.

Patsy Scala's spiritual imagination sees this heavenly fruition of our hope as the deepest truth of our being. "It is the power that can change the world, and extends to the farthest reaches of the cosmos." We are "to hold in our minds and in our hearts the truth that this spirit child in the soul's womb is always within us and always ready to be birthed in every moment."

H.D. van Goudoever sees the human soul as the Madonna who bears for each person one's own spirit fruit. He writes, "In the consciousness soul, the birth of the 'I' becomes a common concern for all humanity. In the new phase of Christianity, each soul is called upon to become a Madonna." And imagining further:

"As at physical birth when the soul awakens to the physical world, so at spirit birth, *the soul awakens in the spiritual world*. Christmas is a birth festival in the sense that each year around this time a birth of spirit takes place anew, the birth of the new Adam—the Adam with the higher self, the Spirit Child."

And so on Christmas Eve we hear again the sound of golden music, for heavenly choirs continue every year their songs to the Shepherds filling our hearts with great gratitude.

As if freed from enchantment, I
feel
The spirit child in the soul's womb—
In the brightness of the heart
The holy Word of Worlds has
produced hope's heavenly fruit—
which, from the divine ground of my
being,
grows rejoicing into the farthest
worlds.

tr. by Christopher Bamford



I feel, as free from all enchantment,
The Spirit's Child within the womb of
soul;
The holy cosmic Word has borne
In the radiance of the heart
The heavenly fruit of hope
Whose joy goes out to farthest
worlds
From the Godhead's ground of my
being.

tr. by John B Thomson

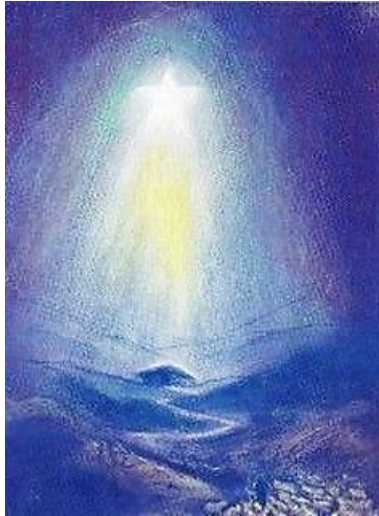
Corresponding Calendar of the Soul Verses 15 and 38

In July, Verse 15, Daisy Aldan translation, we see how the I felt itself "enchanted" in worldly glory; and in feeling enfolded by the spirit's weaving in all the beauties and colors of the earth, it felt strength. The verses of the Calendar from 5 to 20 relate closely to the first chapter of the *Gospel of Luke*. Luke 1:45 says of Mary, "And blessed is she that believed: for there shall be a performance of those things which were told her from the Lord." When spiritual connections are seen and "believed", then strength is given from the spiritual world. Indeed, spirit strength will be born anew every Christmas.

Ich fühle wie verzaubert
Im Weltenschein des Geistes Weben:
Es hat in Sinnesdumpfheit
Gehüllt mein Eigenwesen,
Zu schenken mir die Kraft,
Die, ohnmächtig sich selbst zu geben,
Mein Ich in seinen Schranken ist.

I feel as if enchanted
In worldly glory, Spirit's weaving:
It has, in senses' darkness
Enfolded my own being,
So it might grant me strength:
Which, powerless to give myself
My I" is in its narrow bounds.

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



Artist Leszek Forczek. Mary bringing to earth the Holy Child.
Magi worship with understanding; Shepherds in reverent wonderment

