

Rudolf Steiner's Calendar of the Soul Verse 4: Warmth of Thinking Unites with World

Eloise Krivosheia

Verse 4 relates to the Ego or "I" member of the human being and to Condition 4 from *Knowledge of Higher Worlds*, "Balance the truths you stand for in your soul with an open heart for the needs of the outer world." (Herein, a new soul mood will be experienced, different from the first three verses.)

Through the illuminating power of light and life, our "I" has already acknowledged that our being is rooted in Spiritual Worlds, and we now begin to *feel* this truth. The latent god-given warmth in the ego now comes more to the fore. Our Self in recognizing self feels that it lives in a meaningful sunlit universe, and it experiences a new inner awareness (*Empfindung*).

In Line 3, *Sonnerhelten Welt* conveys a lighting up of the whole *inner nature* of the universe. Light that carries life and love is the substance of the Christ. The essence of our soul lives in this Christ light.

With its new inner awareness, the I begins to sense the essential nature of its true being. It feels drawn to unite with the Sun world's "flowing light." With its inner warmth now fanned into life, the I can and desires to pour warmth into its thinking's clarity.

Ich fühle Wesen meines Wesens:
So spricht Empfindung,
Die in der sonnerhellten Welt
Mit Lichtesfluten sich vereint;

Sie will dem Denken
Zur Klarheit Wärme schenken
Und Mensch und Welt
In Einheit fest verbinden.

original by Rudolf Steiner.



Liane Collot d'Herbois

"I feel the essence of my being,"
So speaks an inward sense
Which in the sun-illuminated world
Unites with the flowing light.

For it would pour its warmth
Into thinking's clarity
And bind in one
The human being and the world.

tr. by John Thomson.

Without this warmth, thinking cannot bring Man and Universe to union. (Daisy Aldan's use of *weld* continues the feeling of warmth within the union of man and world.)

Clarity of thinking takes sensual perception to higher understanding and to recognizing the reality of the self. In such a 'living' thinking, we determine our own 'spirit birth', our higher development. When we truly become aware of and feel our I to be in the spiritual world, we have attained a higher I consciousness. In this fourth week after Easter, our consciousness is beginning to be transformed to a higher state.



Iris Sullivan

I feel the essence of my essence
So sentience speaks
Which in the sunlit universe
Unites itself with floods of light;

It would add warmth
To thinking's clarity
And Man and World
In oneness firmly weld.

tr. by Daisy Aldan



This higher state requires the love which comes from *spiritual* light, the same light that Christian Morgenstern speaks of in his poem: "Light is Love, t'is woven sunshine, Love-beams shining from a world of creative Beings who for untold ages have kept us in their hearts..."

Verse Four in its focus on the "I" is a balanced verse of thinking and feeling, beautifully expressed also in Rudolf Steiner's *The Foundation Stone Mantra* in the lines: "O Light Divine, O Sun of Christ! Warm Thou our Hearts, Enlighten Thou our Heads..." Heart warmth is essential if we are to achieve 'thinking's clarity'—and in oneness "firmly weld Man and World." One way we may think of spiritual warmth is the attentive taking in of another's thoughts as our own—with selfless interest.

In this sense we may think of 'community' and how important this same balance of thinking and feeling is if we are to experience freedom in joining with others. In the verse we have the sense that the I—even in oneness with the world—is actually *evolving* its consciousness of being an independent individuality. Balance always precedes progress. We envision little children learning to walk. First they must learn balance—only then can they walk.

The same is true in communal activity. When thinking and feeling are in balance, there can be progress. There is then no sense of concern for loss of identity or of self. Although community activity may indeed require some sacrificing of self from everyone, this is a healthy sacrificing, for it will be a freeing from the chains of egotistic self-interest—as we found so important in last week's verse. In true communal balance the individual can experience community as freedom—freedom even from one's egotism.

When Spiritual Light, thinking with understanding, is manifested in loving deeds done with selfless warmth of heart, we then have the unbeatable inner power which alone can overcome Lucifer's temptation to egotism.

Sensation speaks!

'I feel the essence of my being!
Swirling through torrents of light
in the sun-brightened world.

How sensation yearns
to bestow upon thinking
the gift of warmth that leads to clarity—
and fuses into unity
the human being and the world.

tr. by Tom Mellett



'I feel the essence of my being,'
So speaks perceptive feeling,
As in the sun-illuminated world
It joins the flooding light.

To thinking's clarity
It would add warmth,
And man and world
Would firmly bind as one.

tr. by John F. Gardner

When we keep a state of balance in our thinking and feeling, we make it possible for the power of Christ to have constant access in us; whereas we give the opposing beings open access to us when our thinking lacks warmth. Our aim is to carry out our deeds with warmth of heart. With conscious devotion to moral transformation, we come closer to reaching our higher I and helping the very transformation of Earth.

It is a helpful practice to put one's ideals and ideas, which may be vague, into words. The attention you give will clarify your thinking and lift your consciousness to creative warm 'supra-consciousness'.

As we attain greater consciousness of being, united with the universe, with nature and all its beings, we also feel more consciously connected to our personal angel—perhaps even beginning to experience our angel in brief moments of 'waking sleep'. Through our angel we connect to all other spiritual beings, even including archetypal concepts—for concepts are beings, too. Thus, feeling in union with the universe can bring us into feeling a connection with higher spiritual concepts as well.

In this verse we ask ourselves have we felt that our "I" truly recognized itself, has our essence added warmth to thinking, has it felt a welding to the World? Has the "I" made a resolution?—Will this essential resolution be evident in Verse 5? For the new knowledge that comes with an "I" verse—always the fourth, or fulcrum verse in every seven verses, needs to be properly followed up with a resolution or a higher consciousness of self in the following fifth verse that will be connected to Spirit Self.

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