

Dear Friends,

May 3, 2020

"In listening week by week to the changing language of the year, the soul will find a way to discover its own nature; it will realize how forces are stirring within its being and giving it new life and strength." RS.

Calendar of the Soul Verse 4 (May 3-May 9—dates for the 2020 Calendar)

This "Ego", or "I" verse is connected to **Condition 4 (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.)

The "I" now comes more to the fore. Our true nature lies within. The self is recognizing self, that it lives in a meaningful sunlit universe.. It has 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 light. The "I" feels the essential nature of its true being and this feeling unites with "floods of light."

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.



"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. John Thomson.



Anne Stockton

"I feel the Being 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. John F. Gardner



The essential nature of spiritual activity is life in thinking. In uniting with floods of light my thinking adds true reality to the feeling experience—warmth would be added to thinking's clarity.

Thinking takes sensual perception to higher understanding—to the reality of the self. Thus in thinking, we determine our own "spirit birth" and higher development. When we truly become aware of, feel our I in the spiritual world, we attain a higher I consciousness. In Verse 4 our consciousness is beginning to be transformed to a higher state.

This is a balanced verse between thinking and feeling and in this balance we can see the evolving of an independent individuality -arising out of spiritually penetrated world phenomena. In true balance the

individual can experience community as freedom. Then balance becomes progress. (One notices that only as children learn balance can they learn to walk.)

Further concepts arise from a newly attained consciousness of being united with the universe: we connect to our angel and through our angel connect to all the other spiritual beings, including the archetypes—for concepts are beings. But we may be aware that in "binding" with the world—with others—there seems to be a sacrificing of individualness. Freedom has to be experienced as community.

In the verse, feeling adds warmth to clarity of thinking. We may think of spiritual warmth as the taking in of another's thoughts as our own —with selfless interest. Feeling gives the power to join to thinking.

Prokofieff offers that keeping a constant state of balance in our thinking makes it possible for the power of Christ to have constant access in us. -In willing he says we need to be devoted to constant moral transformation, or "spirit creating."

Kuhlewind suggests that we practice putting our ideas into words. It is an exercise he says that lifts us to 'supra-consciousness' —a creative region of warmth.

In this verse we ask ourselves have we felt that our "I" truly recognized itself, has it added warmth to thinking, and felt a welding to the World? Has the "I" made a resolution? --Will this essential resolution be evident in Verse 5?

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. 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. John F. Gardner

From RS's preface to the 2nd German Edition of the Calendar of the Soul 1918: "The year has a life of its own, and the human soul can share in that life and become part of it. . . . You should take these weekly meditations quite particularly into your hearts, for they contain what can make the soul alive and what really corresponds to a living relationship of the soul forces to the forces of the macrocosm."

In listening week by week to the changing language of the year, the soul will find a way to discover its own nature; it will realize how forces are stirring within its being and giving it new life and strength.

Such forces are awakened if one develops a profound sympathy with the course of the year and all the meaning it brings to the changing world.

Only through such sympathy can the soul become aware of the fine but significant threads that bind it to the world into which it is born."