



In this Fifth week, from depths of soul, the I feels radiantly its new connection to Cosmic warmth and light. Released thereby from egotistic limits, its true being shines widely on the creative work of the gods.

Again the Calendar offers insight as we seek to reach our higher self.

Rudolf Steiner's Calendar of the Soul Verse 5: Spirit Light Frees Soul Essence

Eloise Krivosheia

This "Spirit Self" verse is connected to **Condition 5 (Steadfastness in carrying out a resolution once it is taken.)** Verse 5 is one of the 4 **Light Verses**. Description of Light Verses is on Pages 2-3.

We remember that last week the "I" wanted to unite with the flowing light of the sun-illuminated world so that the warmth of the Christ light would enhance human thinking's clarity and help to join man and world. So we look to see if this goal, this resolve is carried through in Verse 5.

Indeed, we find that in its connection with the Light Being and with the wider world, the I is released from a lower self-centeredness and able to expand to its higher self, toward Spirit Self.

We see again that the Light that carries life, love and warmth is the substance of the Christ. The essence of our soul lives in this Christ light. "The soul's true being is widened into worldwide life."

Im Lichte, das aus Geistestiefen
 Im Raume fruchtbar webend
 Der Götter Schaffen offenbart:
 In ihm erscheint der Seele Wesen
 Geweitet zu dem Weltensein
 Und auferstanden
 Aus enger Selbstheit Innenmacht.

original German by Rudolf Steiner.



Ninetta Sombart

Within the light that out of spirit
 depths
 Weaves germinating power into space
 And manifests the gods' creative
 work:
 Within its shine, the soul's true being
 Is widened into worldwide life
 And resurrected
 From narrow selfhood's inner power.

translation by Ruth and Hans Pusch



Risen to the Sun- Leszek Forczek

In light that wells from spirit
 depths
 And weaving fruitfully in space
 Reveals the gods' creative work;
 Appears the soul's own being,
 Expanded now to world existence
 And risen free
 From narrow inwardness of self.

tr. by John F. Gardner



Anne Stockton

Can we feel in this verse a heightened consciousness, a freeing of ourselves from lower self? To gradually become aware of our higher place in the world, this will be a first step toward the path of initiation. We can enjoy discovering in the 7 lines of this verse, the 7 members of the human being: Physical, Etheric, Astral, Ego, Spirit Self, Life Spirit, Spirit Human. Here, in Line 5 it is the Spirit Self that we are reaching toward.

Line 1, beginning with "In Light. . ." brings to mind the fact that nothing can exist or grow without light. Physical light can show us objects; but spiritual light shows the human being as gods' creation. In Line 2 we may contemplate that one's I is of like kind to the essence of God, in that it must have the same powerful livingness in it as has the God-created germ in the seed of a plant—which is enough to push open the earth—even a rock—and cause a new plant to grow even into all its diversified parts.

In Line 4, the Ego line, the true being of the soul shines in this Light - or is seen shining. For me, this is the I wanting to raise itself. Then in Line 5, appearing with the selflessness of the Spirit Self, it expands to feel the whole world, even to offer itself to the whole world.

In Lines 2 and 3, bringing the light of our understanding, we feel an inner glow from beholding all space filled with the gods' creative work. Then in joyful, greater consciousness, we recognize with Lines 4, 5 and 6 that we in our essence live in this great universe, too, —now in a new "resurrected" sense. This "resurrected sense" seems even to reflect the Easter resurrection of Christ. Feeling a birth out of our "chrysalis," we touch the experience of entering Time in an eternal sense.

Reflecting on the etheric qualities of "fruit bearing" in Line 2 and meeting the word "resurrected" in Line 6 we are reminded of Life Spirit, the etheric transfigurative power of the Christ. This developmental progress from Etheric to Life Spirit examples how beautifully the lines of the verse are constructed. With "fructification" in Line 2, we may contemplate that our etheric, life body was gained on Old Sun, Earth's 2nd state, and with "resurrection" on Line 6, the human being in the far future will have attained Life Spirit on new Venus, Earth's 6th state.

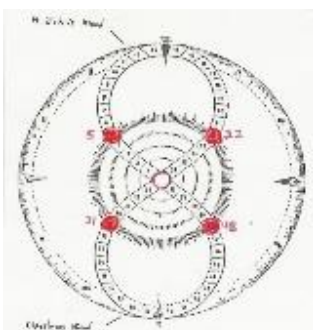
Within the light, which out of spirit
depths
In space its fertile splendour weaves,
Revealing thus the Gods' creating,
In it appears the soul's inherent being
To universal being widened
And risen now
From narrow selfhood's inner sway.

tr. by Brigitte Knaack



In light which out of Spirit depth
In space fruit-bearing weaving,
Which there reveals the gods'
creating:
The essence of the soul appears
Expanded to the universe
And resurrected
From narrow selfhood's inner might.

tr. by Daisy Aldan



The Four "Light Verses": Another aspect of Verse 5 is its Sun place among the 52 verses. This diagram (a larger one is shown below) maps how Earth and Sun move in the form of a lemniscate. Earth appears to pass 4 times through the place where the Sun (center) has been. The four verses spaced out 5 weeks from Sun in the diagram show Verses 5, 22, 31 and 48; each one 5 weeks out from an Equinox or Solstice. Here is the description as given by Roberta van Schilfgaarde:

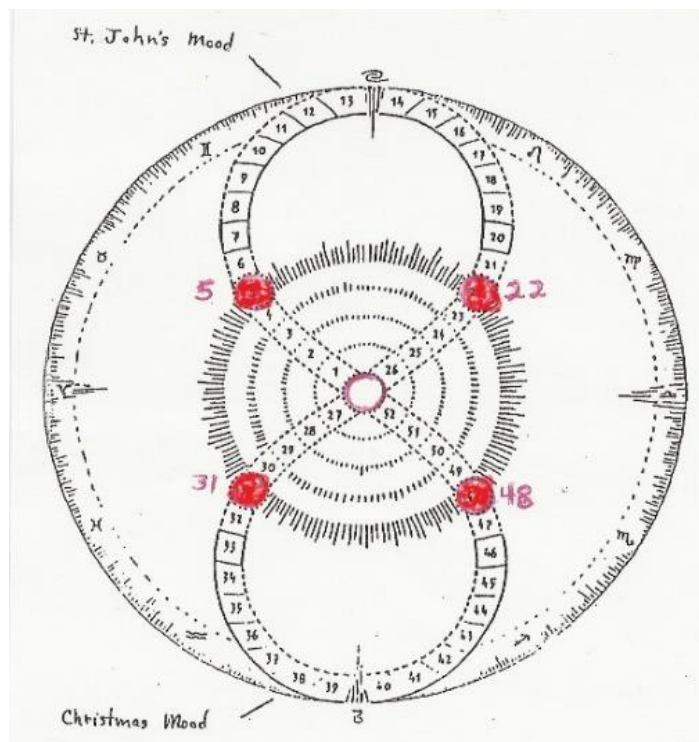
The Light Verses

"We may notice that the verses five weeks before and five weeks after Easter start with "In the light" and the verses five weeks before and five weeks after Michaelmas start with "The light." This difference may seem subtle, but it clearly shows our relation to the light of Christ.

In a progression of the soul's relation to the Light, the verses speak to us:

- Light out of Spirit depths lifting us into world widths (5);
- Light becoming spirit light in us in order to give birth to our fruits for ripening in course of time (22);
- Light becoming the very force of our life of will, shining into senses' dullness, in order to give birth to creative forces out of our soul impulses which can ripen in our human work (31);
- And finally, Light (in warm world thinking) wakening Love in us (48)."

This rhythm of the Light verses may be likened to the rhythmic system in us, connecting our will nature, our metabolic system, with our head nature. The Christ rhythms inherent in these verses sum up the movement of the entire course of the year in a most wonderful way and are delightful also to read in that sense.



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