

## Hexagram 11 – The Ways of Wholeness with the Sacred Earth Interbeing



*Immersion in the ways of the spirit.*

*The unimportant going, the important coming.*

*Wisdom: Spiritual influencing and nourishing all.*

**Ideogram:** The image of a person within the living water, signifying the connection to the cosmos, the sacred universe.

### Structure:

- The energy of the Creative rises from below ☰, and the yielding Receptive descends ☷.
- Inside is the spirit and outside, the form. Form submits to substance.
- Persisting strength inside, devoted yielding outside.

The hexagram marks the month of the spring equinox, March – April, the second month of the Chinese calendar. The spiritual blessings of this hexagram's season necessarily arises through the laws of change. All cultures celebrate the beginning of spring, the time when growth reemerges.

The ideogram of the hexagram depicts life immersed within the loving spirit, which occurs when the Earth Interbeing fulfills its spiritual purpose of caring for Earth and all life, for Creation. All life and the Earth lovingly sustain the harmony and balance of interbeing and brings about a time of flowering and greatness.

Earth Interbeing has the one purpose to care for Earth Interbeing so that all may have unobstructed and complete union with the spirit. Creation moves humbly toward the loving Creator. Their influences meet and harmonize, causing all life to bloom and prosper.

Interbeings live the ways of the Spirit to fulfill their sacred purpose to care for Creation, ways which sustain the harmony and balance of Earth Interbeing. Within communities that live the ways of the spirit, social harmony and a lack of division among people prevail as all have the common purpose to benefit all.

Sages live the ways of wholeness with the sacred Earth Interbeing:

Sages relate to all their sacred Earth Interbeing relations with love and care, serving the well-being of all.

Sages know the sacred within all their interactions and situations and open to the loving path through problems and dangers.

Sages live within Earth and moral limits to sustain the sacred balance and harmony, reciprocate for the gifts they receive from the Earth Interbeing, and hold themselves accountable for their actions.

Sages take responsibility for their own wholeness and fulfill their responsibilities to the wholeness of Earth Interbeing, creating opportunities for others to do the same.

Yet this time of flourishing does not last as all remain subject to the fundamental law of change: increase turns into decrease, summer into fall. Sages adaptively make this time of flourishing endure by daily extending the blessings of the spirit to an ever widening sphere.

Sages shape experience with love, wisdom, moral discipline and justice. Because they remain humble and live the ways of the spirit, their lives have purpose and meaning. By balancing inner firmness with acting in the world with devotion and gentleness, sages stay on the path and fulfill their duties to care for the Earth Interbeing.

**Line 1:** The three lower lines belong with one another and advance together. The wise draw others of like-mind along with them, like pulling up grass with connected roots. When sages can extend their influence widely, they go into the world with worthy partners to overcome selfishness and to benefit all.

**Line 2:** The sage accords with clarity in action and brings to life the ways of the spirit.

**Line 3:** The wise understand creation's perpetual cycle of increase and decrease. Sages persist in following the spiritual path both in easy and difficult times; thus, they fulfill their purpose to care for the Earth Interbeing. Sages live at the border of the spiritual and worldly realms. They are in the world but not of it.

**Line 4:** The humble line has no material wealth or personal ambitions, finding both spiritual treasure and fulfillment through living the ways of the spirit.

**Line 5:** Spiritual growth flourishes, like the growth after seedburst. Returning to its sacred center, the sage achieves fulfillment of its purpose to care for the Earth Interbeing. It follows its heart's desires and brings to fruition all the beneficial changes it wants to see in the world, filling the world with spiritual blessings.

**Line 6:** The times change as foretold by line 3. The world collapses from within. Efforts to stave off disaster fail as the world's denial of the spirit and the sacredness of the Earth and life have made this outcome inevitable. Those responsible for harming others and the Earth for self-benefit feel shame, but now they can do nothing.