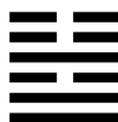


Hexagram 54 Restoring Sacredness

 Restoring sacredness.
Disciplining self. Danger.
Do not impose a direction on events.

Structure: Action ☰ over pleasure ☷.

Image Tradition

Restoring sacredness.

One's purpose belongs to the sacred and the Earth Interbeing.

The sacred Earth and life separated.

And the myriad beings not interbeing.

Humanity's completion begins with restoring knowing sacredness.

Joyfulness and sacred movement. .

The place for restoring sacredness.

Disciplining the self. Danger,

Self-centeredness not appropriate.

Do not impose a direction on events.

Yielding masters unyielding.

We make people do what we want them to do. We want to change circumstances more to our liking and ambitiously further our own interests in the world. In all these situations, we impose our self-centered will upon others.

Imposing our will on others or bending the direction of how a situation unfolds to our benefit goes against the sacred ways. It enacts our willingness to harm others for self-benefit. Such behavior separates us from the sacred and our sacredness.

The sacred path opens us to knowing the sacred and our sacredness. We discipline ourselves to remove the wrong views the ways we harm the Earth Interbeing and renounce imposing our will upon others and situations. The process will cause us to suffer as we experience the loss of viewing ourselves as superior to other life. By yielding to the sacred, we master our unyielding self-centeredness.

Yet we gain more than we lose. We come to joyfully align our views and live our lives in the ways of the sacred path to further life on Earth. These sacred changes transform us, and we come to know and live our sacredness. We unite with the sacred.

Line 1: The line subjugates its will to the sacred. It uses humbleness and self-discipline to recover its sacredness.

Line 2: Solitary perseverance furthers. We have the responsibility to recover our sacredness on our own. Once we have recovered our sacredness through our disciplined efforts to remove our harmful views and ways, we will know what we can do to further life on Earth.

Line 3: Only a gradual and persistent effort will eventually overcome a self-centered view of life. At this point on the path, the line has not submitted its self-centered will to the sacred way, one of the most difficult obstacles to overcoming our separation from the sacred and the Earth Interbeing. The line does not prematurely act to force a direction upon an unfolding situation. The line accepts the tension and uncertainty of the imbalanced situation and perseveres in removing its harmful views and ways.

Line 4: The line patiently cultivates the inner conditions necessary to overcome its separation from the Earth Interbeing. Even though the process takes longer than expected, the line perseveres and eventually attains what it sought.

Line 5: The line has overcome its self-centeredness and now submits its will to the sacred purpose of furthering life on Earth. To live this way, it humbly places itself below others. The line centers on the sacred and gives highest value to yielding to inspired movement.

Line 6: Acts of devotion and rituals devoid of reverence and meaningful sacrifice have no benefit. The devout approach the sacred by sacrificing their self-centeredness and willingness to harm for self-benefit. The devout does the work of the sacred within the world.