

Hexagram 55 - Sacredness at the Point of Overflowing



Sacredness at the point of overflowing.

Transforming.

The sage envisions it.

No sorrow for its eventual decline.

Properly sacredness in the center.

Ideogram meanings: Point of overflowing; abundant, plentiful; grow wealthy; exuberant, fertile, prolific; rich in talents, friends, property; fullness, culmination; ripe.

Structure:

- Arousing action above ☰. Wisdom of sacredness below ☷. Acting through sacredness.
- Like the rising sun, sacredness surges upward with arousing action, an image of great power.

As we remove our harmful ways and views, we uncover our sacredness. The hexagram points to the time when we have uncovered our sacredness and can express sacredness through action. We begin to live our sacredness through our actions and by knowing the sacredness of all.

We open to the sacred moving through us to do the holy work of furthering life on Earth. We have surrendered our will to the sacred for the sacred knowing of how to do this holy work and act upon the sacred knowing. If we do not act upon what we know, we prove our ignorance. Acting on our sacredness furthers life on Earth.

When we no longer know how to act wisely, we stop and retreat. Knowing when to retreat from acting in the world preserves our spiritual path. Our inaction completes and proves our understanding of knowing. Even within the time of fullness, the sage knows that its knowing what to do will dim.

The more we uncover our sacredness, the more we bring forth sacredness into the world. At first, we only have intermittent glimpses of knowing what to do before our harmful ways and views once again obscure our connection with sacredness. Yet we have learned how to uncover sacredness by removing whatever harmful view or ways cloud our awareness.

The sacred unites with the Earth to cause life. Thus, all beings live within two realms – the sacred realm of the eternal now and that of the constant flux of change. Life can live in both through our sacredness. To do so requires a balance between living the eternal now of our sacredness and the constant change we experience within the flowing interdependent reality, Earth. We need to balance living in both realms. When overwhelmed by change, we return to the sacred now. When we lose our grounding in living on Earth, we return to our purpose to further life on Earth.

Our influence in the world naturally ebbs and flows, like the seasons. When we experience disharmony and imbalance, our influence wanes. When our uncertainty grows about the way forward, our knowing dims. Sages do not struggle against changing times but turn inward toward

the sacred for rest and renewal. In this way, they prepare for the sacred time when once again they can act wisely, bringing to life the sacred within the world and influencing others to further the ways of wholeness.

We have the certainty that the time of fullness of wisdom and action will come again in the same way we know the sun will rise again. Such mutability might cause some to despair, but sages, free of sorrow, radiate the fullness of sacredness in action when they can.

When balanced, we live our sacredness within the world. Such times bring great joy and fulfillment. The lesson of this hexagram teaches us to not feel sad or anxious about the inevitable and natural loss of balance. We expect the loss of balance but also know we can recover our balance and renew our capacities to further life on Earth, ever vigilant to thwart harmful views and behaviors. In this way, we strengthen our capacities to live the now within constant change.

Line 1: This line represents the beginning of acting with wisdom, the union of knowing and energetic movement. Acting upon knowing what to do brings about the time of fullness, a time that endures for as long as we have the sacred knowing of what to do. The line stops acting once its knowing dims. Acting without knowing what to do proves ignorance.

Line 2: The line has ideas of what to do to further life on Earth but does not receive sacred support for them. Wisely, the line does not act upon its own speculation. It deepens its understanding of the ways of sacredness to illuminate its errors and until it receives the sacred knowing of how to further life on Earth.¹

Line 3: A great confusion and ignorance prevent the line's knowing how to respond to a situation in ways that benefit all. The wise do not act when confused and ignorant.

Line 4: The line overcomes its ignorance by yielding to the sacred knowing of how to act. When sacredness complements action, interrelated elements come together and further life on Earth. Sacredness reaches into the world through illuminated action.

Line 5: Sacredness at the point of overflowing. The sage acts through sacred knowing to extend sacredness in the world, the furthering of life on Earth.

Line 6: The line furthers its self-centeredness, isolating itself from the sacred and Earth Interbeing. The ignorant line holds itself better than others, who leave the line to itself.

¹ **Ways of sacredness to further the wellbeing of life on Earth (work in progress):** devotion to the sacred by furthering the wellbeing of life on Earth; living the sacredness and moral interdependence of life and Earth; compassionately responding to the moral obligation of interdependence to respond to suffering of life; surrendering to the sacred will to know how to respond to suffering of life; equality of mutually beneficial and harmonious interactions; equality of equitable sharing of Earth's abundance; preserving a balance within being and with the whole Earth Interbeing; willingness to make the effort to do the harder but right thing to do.