

Hexagram 5 Waiting for Sacred Knowing



Waiting for sacred knowing.

Nurturing behaviors to accord with sacredness.

Sacred influence pervading and nourishing spiritual growth. Persevere.

Benefit from having the purpose to further life on Earth.

Ideogram: Rain and stopped, compelled to wait; rain and sacred, providing what is needed. Meanings of ideogram: wait, wait on; hesitation, delay, doubt; take care of, need, require; obstinate, fixed on.

Structure: Sacred. strength within, ☳. Danger above, ☰. Strength in the face of danger, sacred within danger.

The hexagram depicts a time when a danger that we must overcome confronts us. It counsels us to not act until we have the confidence that we have the capacity and know how to overcome it. Prevailing over what separates us from the sacred and our sacredness relies upon the blessing of sacred knowing of what to do, for which we must wait.

Knowing that we must overcome a danger but not knowing how to do it creates tension within the waiting. The weak cannot endure waiting. Instead, they impatiently and ignorantly act on their own and accomplish nothing but increase the danger and deepen their despair. On the path, we cultivate a patience that endures to the end, calmly accepting that the blessings of the sacred knowing of how to move through danger will come once inner and outer conditions have ripened.

Our strength shows in uncompromising honesty about our harmful ways and views, seeing the way to dissolve them, and then acting upon that knowing. While waiting, we overcome within ourselves whatever obstructs us from living our sacredness. Firmly restraining ourselves from acting ignorantly keeps danger from overwhelming us. We stop ourselves from acting until we have the confidence of knowing how to act in the ways of sacredness to overcome whatever harmful ways and views block us from knowing and living our sacredness.¹

Parting from our harmful ways and views by correcting our willingness to harm for self-benefit prepares us to receive the sacred knowing. To overcome the roots of the confronting danger, we learn to confidently surrender our self-centered and ignorant will and defer to sacred guidance, and open to the sacred moving our lives. Our kind and caring interactions with other beings and equitable sharing the Earth's abundance with all beings illuminate knowing how to overcome the dangers we face. In these ways, we come to further life on Earth.

¹ **Ways of sacredness:** worshipping the sacred through how we live within an interdependent reality to further life on Earth; living the sacredness and moral interdependence of life and Earth; fulfilling our moral obligation to respond to the suffering of others and all life; surrendering to the sacred will to learn from our mistakes; the equality of mutually beneficial and harmonious interactions; the equality of equitable sharing of Earth's abundance; keeping still when ignorant; willingness to make the effort to do the harder but right thing to do.

Line 1: The line perceives a distant but approaching danger. It does not go out to meet the danger but calmly perseveres in preparing to face the danger. By holding on to the enduring ways of sacredness, the line waits and lets the situation unfold on its own.

Line 2: As the danger comes closer, the self-centered show their anxiety and blame others for the danger. The strong line remains calm and does not react to others blaming it. It perseveres in responding to the needs of the moment in the ways of sacredness.

Line 3: Danger threatens the line, but it does not have the capacities to overcome it. Nevertheless, the line plunges prematurely into it, eager for achievement but instead inviting greater danger and bringing on its own defeat. By not waiting for the proper time, the line falls behind, mired in fear and anxiety. Only caution and knowing the seriousness of a dangerous situation keep us from blindly advancing into it

Line 4: Dangers caused by the line's harmful ways and views overcome the line. The line does not directly resist the danger but rather turns inward to seek sacred refuge to learn how to survive the danger in the ways of sacredness. The line submits to sacred guidance and obeys the sacred will.

Line 5: The line has done all it needs to do for now. It confidently waits for the situation to unfold while it cultivates its capacities of sacredness, preparing itself for the next inevitable encounter with danger.

Line 6: The line experiences the consequences of its willingness to harm. Yet in this extremity, it does not let go of its sacred path and does not act. Without a move on one's part, the situation transforms in unexpected ways. The line keeps alert and defers to sacred guidance of how to move through the dangers of its harmful ways and views without harm or harming. A beneficial outcome often comes in a form that seems strange to us.