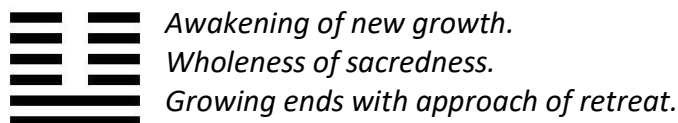


Hexagram 19 – Awakening of New Growth



Structure:

- Joy within ☰ and outer devotion ☷. Devotion above sinks downward toward rising joy. The two movements approach each other.
- Two strong lines grow into the hexagram from below, the light power expanding with them.

Time: The hexagram marks the 12th month in the Chinese calendar (January – February), the time of the Chinese new year and the transition of winter into spring. The power of the sun strongly ascends again, a joyful time of certain growth.

During this joyful time, we awake from the harsh conditions that had ended the past cycle of growth. We preserved our sacred path by retreating from overpowering harmful conditions and found refuge within the sacred. The coming of spring, however, awakens a yearning for new growth, a feeling that becomes more palpable as spring advances. We hear the sacred calling us.

The new growth emerges out of how we grew during the past cycle and appears when conditions for its survival allow, which happens within sacred time. For that time to come we must wait for harsh conditions to dissipate more. We sense the nearing of new growth but do not anticipate it. We wait for us knowing our new growth to unfold on its own.

Herein lies the danger that we may ignorantly anticipate the nature of our new growth and rashly impose our will to move in that direction. Our ignorance leads us astray. Imposing a direction upon the new growth dissipates the potential of the next step to clearly emerge.

Thus, we restrain the temptation to take the next step of our work to further life on Earth without sacred guidance. Yet, within this waiting, we have much to do. By deepening our practice of overcoming our self-centeredness, superiority, and the wrong views of generational power over other beings, we further diminish the obstacles to living sacredness and furthering life on Earth. We continue the holy work the sacred has given us to do from the past cycle. By cultivating a patience that endures to the end of waiting, we open to the sacred moving our lives. Upon doing all we can to prepare ourselves, we confidently wait to know the sacred direction of our next step on the sacred path.

The direction of our new growth manifest through our established practice of responding to the needs of the moment in the ways of sacredness.¹ A situation may arise that seems to threaten the work of the past cycle. Yet even then we respond to it in the ways of sacredness. Without a move on our part, the situation may transform in unexpected ways. We seek direction from the sacred how

¹ **Ways of sacredness to further life on Earth:** humble submission to the sacred and ways of sacredness; awaking to the sacred and sacredness; living sacredness; harmonious and respectful interactions with all beings; sacred refuge, guidance and purpose to further life on Earth; responding to the needs of others and moment; perseveringly moving through dangers; stopping in sacredness.

to respond and learn the direction of our new growth. Our next step on the sacred path may come in a form that seems strange to us. Do not let opportunities to grow our sacredness by failing to respond to the moment in the ways of sacredness.

We know our work of new growth as we experience it as a sudden, frightening awakening, a powerful energy rising from the sacred. A teeming chaos surrounds us, and we do not know how to begin. Within this experience, we do not lose our devotion to the sacred or the ways of sacredness. The joy we have for knowing our next step on the sacred path overpowers our dread and other ways we habitually have resisted self-change.

Once we discern the sacred path through the difficulties of a new beginning, we surrender our will to do the holy work and the sacred moving our lives. We enter the field of our new growth in the ways of sacredness and with the direction of the sacred. This approach of new growth does not apply only to the annual cycle of seasons but to every step we take on the sacred path.

Within the ascending conditions for new growth, sages joyfully devote themselves to bringing to life the ways of sacredness to further life on Earth. We do not feel discouraged by the reality that the season of growth will inevitably end. A decrease follows every increase. Instead of futilely resisting what we cannot control, we rise above what changes by furthering what endures – the ways of sacredness. Acting in the ways of sacredness to further life on Earth never fails.

Line 1: Coming new growth of living sacredness approaches. The line restrains itself from acting prematurely.

Line 2: The line balances its firm resolve to live sacredness to further life on Earth with its humble submission of its will to sacred guidance. It has fully prepared itself for its next step to further life on Earth through the ways of sacredness.

Line 3: The line imagines it knows its next step on the sacred path. However, upon further reflection, the line regrets its presumption. It rejects its ignorance and humbly waits for the unfolding of its sacred path.

Line 4: New growth emerges. The line has fully mastered the challenges of its past step and has prepared itself for its new growth. It recognizes the emergence of its next step and claims it.

Line 5: The line seeks sacred guidance on how to take its next step in the ways of sacredness. Knowing what to do to live sacredness and further life on Earth illuminates its sacredness.

Line 6: The sacred moves the devoted to live sacredness and to further life on Earth. The holy work of the devoted flourishes.