

Hexagram 42 – Pouring in More Effort



Pouring in more effort.

Benefit from the effort to correct oneself.

Benefit from overcoming dangerous obstructions to living sacredness.

Ideogram: water and vessel, pour in more. **Meanings of ideogram:** pour in more; increase, advance, augment; superabundant, excessive.

Structure: humble submission above ☵ and power of sacred energy below ☴ strengthen each other.

The hexagram describes the situation in which the building strength of our willingness to harm for self-benefit matches our capacities to resist this severe danger. Because conditions favor the strengthening urge to harm for self-benefit, the danger threatens to overpower our resistance to it, causing us to willingly harm others and the Earth.

On the sacred path, we grow our capacities to resist and dismantle many of our harmful behaviors and views. We may feel complacent with our success and take a more relaxed approach to living sacredness. We may seek to avoid uprooting our willingness to harm for self-benefit as that will entail more self-sacrifice than we have the appetite for. The energy level of our sacred path wanes.

Receiving this hexagram serves as a sacred call for us to wake up. Only by pouring more energy into our sacred path can we vigorously resist our willingness to harm others and the Earth for self-benefit. Our harmful ways and views have many guises and seek an unguarded moment to have their way.

When overwhelmed by a presenting danger, we call upon the sacred for the energy and firmness we need to resist it in the ways of sacredness¹ Overcoming the cultural conditioning that has habituated us to living in harmful ways requires us to change ourselves by breaking a bad habit and learning how to respond to experience in the ways of sacredness. It takes a high level of energy to break free of the momentum of just going along with the ways of a harmful culture and to make the effort to move against the danger's strong current.

Every time we feel overwhelmed by urges to harm others and life for self-benefit, we pause and call upon the sacred for strength to resist the urge in the ways of sacredness. We cut through our ignorance of knowing what to do by seeking sacred guidance. Returning to a sacred ways changes our view of dangerous situation. With a more energized awareness, we no longer view the danger as a harmful threat to which we must respond harmfully but rather as a cry of suffering. With sufficient spiritual energy, we respond to it in ways that alleviate the suffering.

In the so doing, we further unfold the potential of our sacredness. Living sacredness has the power to change our point of view, a great blessing. Instead of centering on the self and what we want and don't

¹ **Ways of the sacred and sacredness:** We live within the reality caused by the sacred, a reality marked by the sacred ways: interdependence, change, equality, and sacredness. The ways of sacredness guide us to living sacredness to further life on Earth, the sacred purpose of all life: awakening to sacred knowing; wisdom of living sacredness; harmonious and respectful interactions; devotion to the sacred; humble submission to sacred ways and direction; responding to the suffering of others; restoring and preserving a balanced life; manifesting the sacred purpose to further life on Earth.

want, we view the situation through the lens of interdependence and common sacredness. We see ourselves living sacredness as interrelated interbeings who have the moral obligation to respond to suffering.

Whenever we sense our sacredness disturbed by a willingness to harm for self-benefit, we seek and receive from the sacred the energy to overcome the harmful way and view before it overpowers us. It takes energy to resist the power that our harmful ways and views have over us. Grounding ourselves in our sacredness, we pour more sacred energy into our sacred path to dissolve our harmful views and urges. Whatever growth of living sacredness we unfolded to overcome the danger, we offer the sacred. Each time we overcome a harmful way and view, we learn how to manage when it next inevitably arises. We joyfully recognize that our capacities to resist our harmful ways and views have grown.

The same path that illuminates our inner sacredness illuminates the sacredness of interbeing. Living as interbeings in the ways of sacredness furthers life on Earth. We benefit from the effort it takes to correct ourselves, to humbly submit to the sacred will, and then to act on that wisdom. In turn, we pour our energy into responding to the needs of others in the ways of sacredness.

Line 1: The line benefits from pouring more energy into correcting its harmful ways and views and furthering life on Earth. It turns to the sacred for strength to do what needs to be done. The line vigorously acts upon wisdom, the sacred knowing of what to do. It does not use this increase of energy for self-benefit.

Line 2: The line knows that that its increased strength comes from the sacred to do the holy work within the world. All oracles support this use of strength. The line perseveres in applying sacred wisdom to correct itself and to further life on Earth and offers its efforts to the sacred.

Line 3: The line benefits from pouring more energy into living sacredness by overcoming its harmful ways and views through the ways of sacredness. It has a clear understanding of the danger and sacred guidance of what to do.

Line 4: Through pouring more energy into overcoming harm and furthering life on Earth, the line naturally shifts its point of view from self-centeredness to sacredness. Reaping the benefits of increased energy depends upon this shift of view. The line submits to sacred guidance and obediently acts upon that knowing.

Line 5: The line lives its sacredness by responding to the need of others in the ways of sacredness. This line has no doubts about the sacred wisdom and guidance it has received. It furthers life on Earth by how it lives.

Line 6: The line abstains from overcoming what harms and instead causes harm. The dangerous, self-centered line uses its energy for self-benefit and responds to every passing temptation and urge to willingly harm for self-benefit. It causes danger for itself and others.