

Outcome of an Altria MO and Philip Morris Intl PM merger

6		H	T	T		3	2	2		7
5		T	T	T		2	2	2		6
4		H	T	T		3	2	2		7
3		H	H	T		3	3	2		8
2		H	H	T		3	3	2		8
1		H	T	T		3	2	2		7

HEXAGRAM 21 - Shih Ho - Biting Through

Above LI THE CLINGING, FIRE
Below CHEN THE AROUSING, THUNDER

This hexagram **represents** an open mouth (cf. hexagram 27) with an obstruction (in the fourth place) between the teeth. As a **result** the lips cannot meet.

To bring them together one must **bite energetically through** the obstacle. Since the hexagram is **made up** of the trigrams for thunder and for lightning, it **indicates** how obstacles are forcibly removed in nature.

- Energetic biting through **overcomes** the obstacle that prevents joining of the lips;
- the storm with its thunder and lightning **overcomes** the disturbing tension in nature.
- Recourse to law and penalties **overcomes** the disturbances of harmonious social life caused by
 - criminals and
 - slanderers.

The **theme** of this hexagram is a **criminal lawsuit**, in contradistinction to that of Sung, CONFLICT (6), which **refers** to **civil suits**.

THE JUDGMENT

BITING THROUGH has **success**.
It is favorable to let justice be administered.

When an obstacle to union arises,
energetic biting through brings success.

This is true in all situations.
Whenever unity cannot be established,

the obstruction is due to a talebearer and traitor who is interfering and blocking the way.
To prevent permanent injury,
vigorous measures must be taken at once.
Deliberate obstruction of this sort does not vanish of its own accord.
Judgment and punishment are required to deter or obviate it.

However,
it is important to proceed in the right way.

The hexagram combines

- Li, clarity, and
- Chen, excitement.

- Li is yielding,
- Chen is hard.

Unqualified hardness and excitement
would be too violent in meting out punishment;
unqualified clarity and gentleness
would be too weak.

The two together create the just measure.

It is of moment that

- the man who makes the decisions (represented by the fifth line) is gentle by nature,
while
- he commands respect by his conduct in his position.

THE IMAGE

Thunder and lightning: The image Of BITING THROUGH.

Thus

the kings of former times

made firm the laws

Through clearly defined penalties.

Penalties are the individual applications of the law.

The laws specify the penalties.

- Clarity prevails when mild and severe penalties are clearly differentiated,
- according to the nature of the crimes.
 - This is symbolized by the clarity of lightning.
- The law is strengthened by a just application of penalties.
 - This is symbolized by the terror of thunder.

This clarity and severity have the effect of instilling respect;

it is not that the penalties are ends in themselves.

- The obstructions in the social life of man increase when there is
 - lack of clarity in the penal codes and
 - slackness in executing them.
- The only way to strengthen the law is

- to make it clear and
- to make penalties certain and swift.

THE LINES:

0 Six in the fifth place means:

- Bites on dried lean meat.
 - Receives yellow gold.
- Perseveringly aware of danger.
No blame.

The case to be decided is

- indeed not easy
- but perfectly clear.

Since we naturally incline to leniency,
we must make every effort to be like yellow gold - that is,

- as true as gold and
- as impartial as yellow, the color of the middle [the mean].

It is only by

remaining conscious of the dangers growing out of the responsibility
we have assumed that
we can avoid making mistakes.

MOVING HEXAGRAM

HEXAGRAM 25 - Wu Wang - Innocence (The Unexpected)

Above CH'IEN THE CREATIVE, HEAVEN
Below CHEN THE AROUSING, THUNDER

- Ch'ien, heaven, is above;
- Chen, movement, is below.

The lower trigram Chen is under the influence of the strong line
it has received from above, from heaven.

When, in accord with this,

- movement follows the law of heaven,
- man is
 - innocent and

- without guile.

His mind is

- natural and true,
- unshadowed by reflection or ulterior designs.

For

- wherever conscious purpose is to be seen,
- there the truth and innocence of nature have been lost.

Nature that is not directed by the spirit is

- not true
- but degenerate nature.

Starting out with the idea of the natural,

- the train of thought in part goes somewhat further and thus
- the hexagram includes also the idea of the unintentional or unexpected.

THE JUDGMENT

INNOCENCE. Supreme success.

Perseverance furthers.

If someone is not as he should be,

- He has misfortune,

And

- it does not further him To undertake anything.

Man has received from heaven a nature innately good,
to guide him in all his movements.

By devotion to this divine spirit within himself,
he attains an unsullied innocence that leads him to do right

- with instinctive sureness and
- without any ulterior thought of reward and personal advantage.

This instinctive certainty

- brings about supreme success and
- "furthers through perseverance."

However,

- not everything instinctive is nature in this higher sense of the word,
- but only that which is right and in accord with the will of heaven.

Without this quality of rightness,

an unreflecting, instinctive way of acting brings only misfortune.

Confucius says about this:

- "He who departs from innocence,
 - what does he come to?
- Heaven's will and blessing
 - do not go with his deeds."

THE IMAGE

Under heaven thunder rolls: All things attain the natural state of innocence.

Thus the kings of old,

- rich in virtue, and
 - in harmony with the time,
- Fostered and nourished all beings.

In springtime

when thunder, life energy, begins to move again under the heavens,

- everything sprouts and grows, and
- all beings receive from the creative activity of nature
the childlike innocence of their original state.

So it is with the good rulers of mankind:

drawing on the spiritual wealth at their command,
they

- take care of all forms of life and all forms of culture and
- do everything to further them, and at the proper time.