

Stellar Bancorp Inc STEL under CEO Ramon Vitulli



6		H	T	T		3	2	2		7
5		H	T	T		3	2	2		7
4		H	H	H		3	3	3		9
3		H	T	T		3	2	2		7
2		T	T	T		2	2	2		6
1		T	T	T		2	2	2		6

HEXAGRAM 33 – Tun - Retreat

Above CHIEN THE CREATIVE, HEAVEN
 Below KEN KEEPING STILL, MOUNTAIN

The power of the dark is ascending.

The light retreats to security, so that the dark cannot encroach upon it.

This retreat is a matter

- not of man's will
- but of natural law.

Therefore in this case withdrawal is proper;

it is the correct way to behave

in order not to exhaust one's forces. 1

In the calendar this hexagram is linked with the sixth month (July-August), in which the forces of winter are already showing their **influence**.

THE JUDGMENT

RETREAT. Success.

In what is small, perseverance furthers.

Conditions are such that the hostile forces **avored** by the time are **advancing**.

In this case

- retreat is the **right** course, and
- it is through retreat that **success** is achieved.

But success **consists** in being able to carry out the retreat correctly.

Retreat **is not** to be confused with flight.

- Flight means saving oneself under any circumstances whereas
- retreat is a sign of strength.

We must be careful **not to miss** the right moment while we are **in full possession** of power and position.

Then we shall be able

- to **interpret** the signs of the time
 - before it is too late and
- to **prepare** for provisional retreat
 - instead of being drawn into a desperate life-and-death struggle.

Thus

- we **do not** simply abandon the field to the opponent;
- we **make** it difficult for him to advance
 - by showing **perseverance** in single acts of resistance.

In this way

we **prepare**, while retreating, for the counter - movement.

Understanding the laws of a constructive retreat of this sort is not easy.

The **meaning** that lies hidden in such a time is important.

THE IMAGE

Mountain under heaven: the image of RETREAT.

Thus the superior man

keeps the inferior man at a distance,

Not angrily but with reserve.

The mountain **rises up** under heaven, but owing to its nature it finally **comes to** a stop.

Heaven on the other hand

- **retreats upward** before it into the distance and
- **remains** out of reach.

This **symbolizes** the behavior of the superior man toward a climbing inferior;

he **retreats** into his own thoughts as the inferior man comes forward.

He **does not** hate him,

for hatred **is** a form of subjective involvement by which we are **bound** to the hated object. The superior man shows **strength** (heaven) in that he brings the inferior man to a **standstill** (mountain) by his dignified **reserve**.

THE LINES

0 Six at the beginning means:

At the tail in retreat.

This is dangerous.

One must not wish to undertake anything.

Since the hexagram is the **picture** of something that is retreating,

- the lowest line represents the **tail** and
- the top line the **head**.

In a retreat it is advantageous to be at the front.

Here

one is at the **back**,

in **immediate contact** with the pursuing enemy.

This is **dangerous**, and under such circumstances

it is **not advisable** to undertake anything.

Keeping still is the easiest way of escaping from the threatening danger.

Six in the second place means:

He holds him fast with yellow oxhide.

No one can tear him loose.

Yellow is the color of the **middle**.

It **indicates**

- that which is **correct** and
- **in line** with duty.

Oxhide is strong and not to be torn.

While

- the superior men **retreat** and the inferior **press** after them,
- the inferior man represented here **holds on** so firmly and tightly to the superior men that the latter **cannot** shake him off.

And because

- he is **in quest** of what is right and so strong in purpose,
- he reaches his goal. 2

Thus

the line confirms what is said in the Judgment:

"In what is small" - here equivalent to "in the inferior man" - "perseverance furthers."

Nine in the fourth place means:

Voluntary retreat brings

- good fortune to the superior man And
- downfall to the inferior man.

In retreating the superior man is **intent on** taking his departure

- **willingly and**
- **in all friendliness.**

He easily **adjusts** his mind to retreat,
because in retreating
he does **not have to do** violence to his convictions.

**The only one who suffers is the inferior man from whom he retreats,
who will degenerate when deprive of the guidance of the superior man.**

MOVING HEXAGRAM

HEXAGRAM 09 - Hsiao Ch'u - The Taming Power of the Small

Above SUN THE GENTLE, WIND
Below CH'IEN THE CREATIVE. HEAVEN

This hexagram **means** the force of the small –
the **power of the shadowy** - that

- restrains,
- tames,
- impedes.

A weak line in the fourth place, that of the minister, 1 **holds** the five strong lines **in check**.

In the **Image** it is the wind blowing across the sky.

The wind

- **restrains** the clouds, the rising breath of the Creative, and
- makes them grow dense,
- but as yet is **not strong enough** to turn them to rain.

The hexagram presents a **configuration of circumstances** in which
a strong element is **temporarily** held in leash by a weak element.
It is only through **gentleness** that this can have a successful outcome.

THE JUDGMENT

THE TAMING POWER, OF THE SMALL

Has success.

Dense clouds, no rain from our western region.

This image refers to the **state of affairs** in China at the time when King Wen,

who came originally from the west,
was in the east at the court of the reigning tyrant Chou Hsin.
The **moment for action** on a large scale has not yet arrived.
King Wen could only **keep the tyrant somewhat in check by friendly persuasion**.
Hence the image of many clouds, **promising** moisture and blessing to the land,
although **as yet no** rain falls.
The situation **is not unfavorable**;
there is a prospect of **ultimate success**,

- but there are still **obstacles** in the way, and
- we can merely take **preparatory measures**.

Only through the small means of friendly persuasion can we exert any influence.
The time has not yet come for sweeping measures.
However, we may be able, to a limited extent, to act as a **restraining and subduing**
influence.
To carry out **our purpose** we need

- **firm determination within and**
- **gentleness and adaptability in external relations.**

THE IMAGE

The wind drives across heaven: The image of THE TAMING POWER OF THE SMALL.
Thus the superior man
Refines the outward aspect of his nature.

The wind can indeed drive the clouds together in the sky;
yet, being **nothing** but air, without solid body,
it **does not** produce great or lasting effects.
So also an individual,
in times when he **can produce no** great effect in the outer world,
can do nothing except **refine the expression** of his nature in small ways.