



6		H	H	T		3	3	2		8
5		H	H	T		3	3	2		8
4		T	T	T		2	2	2		6
3		H	H	H		3	3	3		9
2		H	T	T		3	2	2		7
1		H	H	H		3	3	3		9

Hexagram 11 - T'ai - Peace

Above K'UN THE RECEPTIVE, EARTH
Below CH'IEN THE CREATIVE, HEAVEN

- The Receptive, which moves downward, stands above;
 - the Creative, which moves upward, is below.
- Hence their influences meet and are in harmony,
so that all living things bloom and prosper.

This hexagram belongs to the first month (February-March), at which time the forces of nature prepare the new spring.

THE JUDGMENT

PEACE.

- The small departs,
- The great approaches.

Good fortune.

Success.

This hexagram denotes a time in nature when heaven seems to be on earth.

Heaven has placed itself **beneath** the earth, and so their **powers unite** in deep harmony.

Then **peace and blessing descend** upon all living things.

In the world of man it is a **time of social harmony**;

- those in high places show favor to the lowly, and
- the lowly and inferior in their turn are well disposed toward the highly placed.

There is an **end** to all feuds.

- Inside, at the center, in the key position, is the light principle;
- the dark principle is outside.

Thus

- the light has a powerful influence, while
- the dark is submissive.

In this way each receives its due.

- When
 - the good elements of society occupy a central position and are in control,
 - the evil elements come under their influence and change for the better.
- When
 - the spirit of heaven rules in man,
 - his animal nature also
 - comes under its influence and
 - takes its appropriate place.

The individual lines

- enter the hexagram from below and
- leave it again at the top.

Here

- the small, weak, and evil elements are about to take their **departure**, while
- the great, strong, and good elements are **moving up**.

This brings good fortune and success.

THE IMAGE

Heaven and earth unite: the image Of PEACE.

Thus the ruler

- **Divides and**
- **completes**

the course of heaven and earth;

He

- furthers and regulates the gifts of heaven and earth, And so
- aids the people.

Heaven and earth are in **contact** and **combine** their influences, **producing** a time of universal flowering and prosperity.

This stream of energy must be **regulated** by the ruler of men.

It is done by a process of **division**.

Thus men

- divide the uniform flow of time into the seasons, according to the succession of natural phenomena, and
- mark off infinite space by the points of the compass.

In this way

nature in its overwhelming profusion of phenomena is

- bounded and
- controlled.

On the other hand,

nature must be furthered in her productiveness.

This is done by adjusting the products to

- the right time and
- the right place,

which increases the natural yield.

This controlling and furthering activity of man in his relation to nature is the work on nature that rewards him.

THE LINES

Nine at the beginning means:

When ribbon grass is pulled up, the sod comes with it.

Each according to his kind.

Undertakings bring good fortune.

In times of prosperity

every able man called to fill an office draws like-minded people along with him,

just as in pulling up ribbon grass

one always pulls up a bunch of it,

because the stalks are connected by their roots.

In such times,

when it is possible to extend influence widely,

the mind of an able man is

- set upon going out into life and
- accomplishing something.

Nine in the third place means:

- No plain not followed by a slope.
- No going not followed by a return.
- He who remains persevering in danger is without blame.
- Do not complain about this truth;

Enjoy the good fortune you still possess.

Everything on earth is subject to change.

Prosperity is followed by decline: this is the eternal law on earth.

Evil can indeed be held in check but not permanently abolished.

It always returns.

This conviction might induce melancholy, but it should not;

it ought only to keep us from falling into illusion when good fortune comes to us.

If we continue mindful of the danger, we remain persevering and make no mistakes.

- As long as a man's inner nature remains stronger and richer than anything offered by external fortune,
- as long as he remains inwardly superior to fate, fortune will not desert him.

Six in the fourth place means:

He flutters down, not boasting of his wealth,
Together with his neighbor,
Guileless and sincere.

In times of mutual confidence,
people of high rank come in close contact with the lowly

- quite simply and
- without boasting of their wealth.

This

- is not due to the force of circumstances but
- corresponds with their inmost sentiment.

The approach is made quite spontaneously, because it is based on inner conviction.

MOVING HEXAGRAM

HEXAGRAM 40 – Hsieh - Deliverance

Above CHEN THE AROUSING, THUNDER
Below K'AN THE ABYSMAL, WATER

Here the movement goes out of the sphere of danger.

- The obstacle has been removed,
- the difficulties are being resolved.
- Deliverance is not yet achieved;
- it is just in its beginning, and
- the hexagram represents its various stages.

THE JUDGMENT

DELIVERANCE.

The southwest furthers.

- If there is no longer anything where one has to go,
 - Return brings good fortune.
- If there is still something where one has to go,

- Hastening brings good fortune.

This **refers** to a time in which tensions and complications begin to be eased.
At such times

we ought to **make our way back** to ordinary conditions as soon as possible;
this is the meaning of "the southwest."

These periods of **sudden change** have great importance.

Just as

rain **relieves** atmospheric tension, making all the buds burst open,
so

a time of deliverance from burdensome pressure has a

- liberating and
 - stimulating
- effect on life.

One thing is important, however: in such times
we must **not overdo** our triumph.

The point is **not to push** on farther than is necessary.

Returning to the **regular** order of life
as soon as deliverance is achieved
brings good fortune.

If there are any residual matters that ought to be attended to,
it should be done as **quickly** as possible,
so that

- a clean sweep is made and
- no retardation occur.

THE IMAGE

Thunder and rain set in: The image of DELIVERANCE.

Thus the superior man

- pardons mistakes And
- forgives misdeeds.

- A thunderstorm has the effect of **clearing the air;**
- the superior man produces a similar effect
when dealing with mistakes and sins of men
that induce a condition of tension.

Through clarity he brings deliverance.

However,

when failings come to light,
he does not dwell on them;

- he simply passes over mistakes, the unintentional transgressions,
 - just as thunder dies away.
- He forgives misdeeds, the intentional transgressions,
 - just as water washes everything clean.