

Lovesac Co LOVE under CEO Shawn Nelson



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2		H	T	T		3	2	2		7
1		H	T	T		3	2	2		7

### HEXAGRAM 60 – Chieh - Limitation

Above K'AN THE ABYSMAL, WATER  
 Below TUI THE JOYOUS, LAKE

- A lake occupies a limited space. When more water comes into it,
- it overflows.

Therefore

limits must be set for the water.

The image shows

- water below and
- water above,
- with the firmament between them as a limit.

The Chinese word for limitation really denotes the joints that divide a bamboo stalk.

- In relation to ordinary life
  - it means the thrift that sets fixed limits upon expenditures.
- In relation to the moral sphere
  - it means the fixed limits that the superior man sets upon his actions - the limits of loyalty and disinterestedness.

### THE JUDGMENT

LIMITATION.

Success.

Galling limitation must not be persevered in.

- Limitations are troublesome,  
but

- they are effective.

If

- we live economically in normal times,

- we are prepared for times of want.

To be sparing saves us from humiliation.

Limitations are also indispensable in the regulation of world conditions.

In nature there are fixed limits for

- summer and winter,

- day and night, and

these limits give the year its meaning.

In the same way,

economy,

by setting fixed limits upon expenditures,

acts to

- preserve property and

- prevent injury to the people.

But in limitation

we must observe due measure.

- If a man should seek to impose galling limitations upon his own nature,

- it would be injurious.

And

- if he should go too far in imposing limitations on others,

- they would rebel.

Therefore

it is necessary to set limits even upon limitations

## THE IMAGE

Water over lake: the image of LIMITATION.

Thus

the superior man

- Creates number and measure, And

- examines the nature of virtue and correct conduct.

- A lake is something limited.

- Water is inexhaustible.

A lake

- can contain only a definite amount of the infinite quantity of water;

- this is its peculiarity.

In human life too  
the individual achieves significance through

- discrimination and
- the setting of limits.

Therefore

what concerns us here is

the problem of clearly defining these discriminations,  
which are, so to speak,

- the backbone of morality.

- Unlimited possibilities are not suited to man;

• if

• they existed,

- his life would only dissolve in the boundless.

To become strong,

a man's life needs the limitations

- ordained by duty and

- voluntarily accepted.

The individual attains significance as a free spirit only

- by surrounding himself with these limitations and

- by determining for himself what his duty is.

## THE LINES

Six in the third place means:

He who knows no limitation

Will have cause to lament.

No blame.

If

- an individual is bent only on pleasures and enjoyment,

- it is easy for him to lose his sense of the limits that are necessary.

If

- he gives himself over to extravagance,

- he will have to suffer the consequences,

with accompanying regret.

He must not seek to lay the blame on others.

Only when

- we realize that our mistakes are of our own making

- will such disagreeable experiences free us of errors.

Six in the fourth place means:

Contented limitation.

Success.

- Every limitation has its value,

but

- a limitation that requires persistent effort entails a cost of too much energy.

When, however,

- the limitation is a natural one
- (as for example, the limitation by which water flows only downhill),
- it necessarily leads to success,

for then

- it means a saving of energy.

The energy that otherwise

would be consumed in a vain struggle with the object,

- is applied wholly to the benefit of the matter in hand, and
- success is assured.

Six at the top means:

Galling limitation.

Perseverance brings misfortune.

Remorse disappears.

If

- one is too severe in setting up restrictions,
- people will not endure them.

- The more consistent such severity,

- the worse it is,

for in the long run

- a reaction is unavoidable.

In the same way,

- the tormented body will rebel against excessive asceticism.

On the other hand, although

- ruthless severity is not to be applied persistently and systematically,

there may be times when

- it is the only means of safeguarding against guilt and remorse.

In such situations

- ruthlessness toward oneself

- is the only means of saving one's soul,

which otherwise

- would succumb to irresolution and temptation.

## **MOVING HEXAGRAM**

### **HEXAGRAM 01 – Chien - The Creative**

Above THE CREATIVE, HEAVEN

## Below THE CREATIVE, HEAVEN

The first hexagram is made up of six unbroken lines.  
These unbroken lines stand for the primal power, which is

- light giving,
- active,
- strong, and of
- the spirit.

The hexagram is consistently strong, in character, and since it is without weakness, its essence is power or energy. Its image is heaven.

Its energy

- is represented as unrestricted by any fixed conditions in space and
- is therefore conceived of as motion.

Time is regarded as the basis of this motion.

Thus the hexagram includes also

- the power of time and
- the power of persisting in time, that is, duration.

The power represented by the hexagram is to be interpreted in a dual sense - in terms of

- its action on the universe and of
- its action on the world of men.
  
- In relation to the universe, the hexagram expresses the strong, creative action of the Deity.
- In relation to the human world, it denotes the creative action of the holy man or sage, of the ruler or leader of men, who through his power awakens and develops their higher nature. 1

## THE JUDGMENT

THE CREATIVE works sublime success,  
Furthering through perseverance. 2

According to the original meaning, the attributes (sublimity, potentiality of success, power to further, perseverance) are paired.

When an individual draws this oracle, it means

- that success come to him from the primal depths of the universe and
- that everything depends upon his seeking his happiness and that of others in one way only, that is, by perseverance in what is right.

The specific meanings of the four attributes became the subject of speculation at an early date.

The Chinese word here rendered by "sublime" means literally "head," "origin," "great."

This is why Confucius says in explaining it:

"Great indeed is the generating power of the Creative; all beings owe their beginning to it. This power permeates all heaven. 3 For this attribute inheres in the other three as well.

The beginning of all things lies still in the beyond in the form of ideas that have yet to become real.

But the Creative furthermore has power to lend form to these archetypes of ideas.

- This is indicated in the word success, and
- the process is represented by an image from nature: "The clouds pass and the rain does its work, and all individual beings flow into their forms." 4

Applied to the human world, these attributes show the great man the way to notable success:

"Because he sees with great clarity causes and effects, he

- completes the six steps at the right time and
- mounts toward heaven on them at the right time, as though of six dragons."

The six steps are the six different positions given in the hexagram, which are represented later by the dragon symbol.

Here it is shown that the way to success lies in

- apprehending understanding and
- giving actuality to the way of the universe (Tao), which, as a law running through end and beginning, brings about all phenomena in time.

Thus each step attained forthwith becomes a preparation for the next.

Time is no longer a hindrance but the means of making actual what is potential.

The act of creation having found expression in the two attributes - sublimity and success,

the work of conservation is shown to be a continuous actualization and differentiation of form.

This is expressed in the two terms

- "furthering" (literally, "creating that which accords with the nature of a given being") and
- "persevering" (literally, "correct and firm").

"The course of the Creative alters and shapes beings until each attains its true, specific nature, then

it keeps them in conformity with the Great Harmony.

Thus does it show itself to further through perseverance."

In relation to the human sphere, this shows how

the great man brings peace and security to the world through his activity in creating order:

"He towers high above the multitude of beings, and all lands are united in peace."

Another line of speculation goes still further in separating the words "sublime," "success," "furthering" "perseverance," and parallels them with the four cardinal virtues in humanity.

- 1) To sublimity, which, as the fundamental principle, embraces all the other attributes, it links love.
- 2) To the attribute success are linked the mores, which regulate and organize the expressions of love and thereby make them successful. 5
- 3) The attribute furthering is correlated with justice, which creates the conditions in which each receives that which accords with his being, that which is due him and which constitutes his happiness.
- 4) The attribute perseverance is correlated with wisdom, which discerns the immutable laws of all that happens and can therefore bring about enduring conditions.

These speculations, already broached in the commentary called *Wen Yen*, 6 later formed the bridge connecting the philosophy of the "five stages (elements) of change," as laid down in the Book of History (*Shu Ching*) with the philosophy of the Book of Changes, which is based solely on the polarity of positive and negative principles. In the course of time this combination of the two systems of thought opened the way for an increasingly intricate number symbolism. 7

## THE IMAGE

The movement of heaven is full of power.  
Thus the superior man makes himself strong and untiring.

Since there is only one heaven, the doubling of the trigram Ch'ien, of which heaven is the image, indicates the movement of heaven.

One complete revolution of heaven makes a day, and the repetition of the trigram means that each day is followed by another.

This creates the idea of time.

Since it is the same heaven moving with untiring power, there is also created the idea of duration both in and beyond time, a movement that never stops nor slackens, just as one day follows another in an unending course.

This duration in time is the image of the power inherent in the Creative.

With this image as a model,  
the sage learns how best to develop himself so that his influence may endure.  
He must make himself strong in every way,  
by consciously casting out all that is inferior and degrading.  
Thus he attains that tirelessness,  
which depends upon **consciously limiting the fields of his activity.**