

Outcome of Occidental Petroleum buying Permian producer CrownRock for \$12 billion,

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

HEXAGRAM 41 – Sun - Decrease

Above KEN KEEPING STILL, MOUNTAIN
 Below TUI THE JOYOUS, LAKE

This hexagram **represents**

- a decrease of the lower trigram
- in favor of the upper, because
- the third line, originally strong, has **moved up** to the top, and
- the top line, originally weak, has **replaced it**. 1
- What is below is decreased to the **benefit of**
- what is above.

This is out-and-out decrease.

If

- the foundations of a building are decreased in strength and
- the upper walls are strengthened, the whole structure loses its stability.

Likewise,

- a decrease in the prosperity of the people
 - in favor of the government
- is out-and-out decrease.

And

the entire theme of the hexagram is directed to showing how this shift of wealth can take place without causing the sources of wealth in

- the nation and
 - its lower classes
- to fail.

THE JUDGMENT

DECREASE **combined with** sincerity
 Brings about supreme good fortune

Without blame.

- One may be persevering in this.

It furthers one to undertake something.

How is this to be carried out?

- One may use two small bowls for the sacrifice.

Decrease does not under all circumstances mean something bad.

Increase and decrease come in their own time.

What matters here is

- to understand the time and
- not to try to cover up poverty with empty pretense.

If a time of scanty resource brings out an inner truth,
one must not feel ashamed of simplicity.

For simplicity is then the very thing needed to provide inner strength for further undertakings.

Indeed, there need be no concern if the outward beauty of the civilization,
even the elaboration of religious forms,
should have to suffer because of simplicity.

One must draw on the strength of the inner attitude to compensate for what is lacking in externals;
then the power of the content makes up for the simplicity of form.

There is no need of presenting false appearances to God.

Even with slender means, the sentiment of the heart can be expressed. 2

THE IMAGE

At the foot of the mountain, the lake: The image of DECREASE.

Thus the superior man

- controls his anger And
- restrains his instincts.

The lake at the foot of the mountain **evaporates**.

In this way

it **decreases** to the benefit of the mountain,
which is enriched by its moisture.

- The **mountain** stands as the **symbol** of a stubborn strength that can harden into anger.
- The **lake** is the **symbol** of unchecked gaiety that can develop into passionate drives at the expense of the life forces.

Therefore decrease is necessary;

- anger must be decreased by keeping still,
- the instincts must be curbed by restriction.

By this decrease of the lower powers of the psyche,

the higher aspects of the soul are enriched.

THE LINES

Nine in the second place means:

Perseverance furthers.

To undertake something brings misfortune.

Without decreasing oneself,

One is able to bring increase to others.

- A high-minded self-awareness and
 - a consistent seriousness with no forfeit of dignity
- are necessary if a man wants to be of service to others. He who throws himself away in order to do the bidding of a superior
- diminishes his own position
 - without thereby giving lasting benefit to the other.
- This is wrong.
- To render true service of lasting value to another,
 - one must serve him without relinquishing oneself.

Six in the third place means:

- When three people journey together,
 - Their number decreases by one.
- When one man journeys alone,
 - He finds a companion.

When there are three people together, jealousy arises.

One of them will have to go.

A very close bond is possible only between two people.

But when

- one man is lonely,
- he is certain to find a companion who complements him.

MOVING HEXAGRAM

HEXAGRAM 22 – Pi - Grace

Above KEN KEEPING STILL, MOUNTAIN

Below Li THE CLINGING, FIRE

This hexagram shows a fire that

- breaks out of the secret depths of the earth and, blazing up,
- illuminates and beautifies the mountain, the heavenly heights.
- Grace - beauty of form - is necessary in any union

if

- it is to be
 - well ordered and pleasing
- rather than
 - disordered and chaotic.

THE JUDGMENT

GRACE has success.

In small matters

It is favorable to undertake something.

Grace brings success.

However,

- it is not the essential or fundamental thing;
- it is only the ornament and must therefore be used
 - sparingly and
 - only in little things.

1. In the lower trigram of fire a yielding line

- comes between two strong lines and
- makes them beautiful,
but
- the strong lines are the essential content and
- the weak line is the beautifying form.

2. In the upper trigram of the mountain, the strong line

- takes the lead, so that here again
- the strong element must be regarded as the decisive factor.

3. In nature we see in the sky the strong light of the sun; the life of the world depends on it.

But this strong, essential thing is

- changed and
- given pleasing variety by the moon and the stars.

4. In human affairs,

aesthetic form comes into being when

traditions exist that, strong and abiding like mountains, are made pleasing by a lucid beauty.

5. By contemplating the forms existing in the heavens

we come to understand time and its changing demands.

6. Through contemplation of the forms existing in human society it becomes possible to shape the world. 1

THE IMAGE

Fire at the foot of the mountain: The image of GRACE.

Thus does

- the superior man proceed When clearing up current affairs.

But

- he dare not decide controversial issues in this way.

- The fire, whose light illuminates the mountain and makes it pleasing,

- does not shine far;

in the same way,

- beautiful form suffices to brighten and to throw light upon matters of lesser moment,

- but important questions cannot be decided in this way.

They require greater earnestness.