

33.

Tun

Withdrawal.

Upper Trigram: Ch'ien; Creative Principle, Heaven.

Lower Trigram: Ken; Inaction, a Mountain.

Constitutional Rulers: Bottom six.

Six in the second place.

Governing Rulers: Nine in the fifth place.

The Image:

The sky over the mountain: the image of Tun.

The superior man, in accordance with this, keeps small men at a distance, not by showing that he hates them, but by his own dignified gravity.

Miscellaneous Signs:

(11, 12, 34)

While P'i and T'ai their different scopes prefer,
Ta Chuang stops here as right;
withdraws Tun there.

The Judgement:

Tun indicates successful progress in its circumstances. To a small extent it will still be advantageous to be firm and correct.

Commentary:

'Tun indicates successful progress': that is, in the very retiring that Tun denotes, there is such progress.

The strong line is in the ruling fifth place, and is properly responded to by the second. The action takes place according to the requirements of the time.

'To a small extent it will still be advantageous to be firm and correct': the small men are gradually encroaching and advancing.

Great indeed is the significance of the time that necessitates withdrawal.

The Lines:

Six in the bottom place:

X

A retiring tail. The position is perilous.

No movement in any direction should be made.

Six in the second place:

X

Showing its subject holding on to his purpose as if by a thong made of the hide of a yellow ox, which cannot be broken.

Nine in the third place:

Showing one retiring, but bound to his distress and peril. If he were to deal with his bonds as in nourishing a servant or concubine, that would be fortunate for him.

Nine in the fourth place:

Showing its subject retiring notwithstanding his likings. In a superior man this will lead to good fortune; a small man cannot attain to this.

Nine in the fifth place:

O

Showing one retiring in an admirable way.

With firm correctness there will be good fortune.

Top-most nine:

Showing one retiring in a noble way.

It will be advantageous in every respect.

Commentaries:

Six in the bottom place:

There is 'the perilousness of the position', shown by the 'retiring tail'.

But if 'no movement be made', what disaster can there be?

Six in the second place:

'He holds it as by a thong made of the hide of a yellow ox': his purpose is firm.

Nine in the third place:

'The peril connected with the case of one retiring, though bound', is due to the consequent distress and exhaustion.

'If he were to deal with his bonds as in nourishing a servant or concubine, that would be fortunate for him': yes, but a great affair cannot be dealt with in this way.

Nine in the fourth place:

A superior man retires notwithstanding his likings; a small man cannot attain to this.

Nine in the fifth place:

'He is retiring in an admirable way; with firm correctness there will be good fortune': due to the rectitude of his purpose.

Top-most nine:

'He retires in a noble way; and his doing so will be advantageous in every respect': he who does so has no doubts about his course.
