“WHITE AS SNOW”

“Come now, let us reason* together, says the LORD: though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool.” (Isa. 1:18)

Years ago I lived in Tennessee for a while. The “parsonage” was in the country and the lot was covered in tall white oak trees. In the fall of the year the trees shed their leaves and among them a lot of small twigs and branches. One morning in December it began to snow. I was working in my study and could look out over the lot through the window. As time passed and the snow came down, the twigs and leaves disappeared under a beautiful white blanket of snow. It was then I realized the significance of the scripture in Isaiah, “though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow.”

Sin is ugly! It mars everything it touches and it kills. What the prophet is telling us is that regardless of how ugly and devastating sin is, when forgiveness comes, one can be as clean and pure as the white snow that falls from heaven. Certainly the Bible says, “the soul that sinneth, it shall die.” (Ezek. 18:20) Many mistakenly think they have to keep repenting. One person said, “I have repented many times over that.” Once a person repents of a sin and gets forgiveness, it done, its finished, its over.

The Hebrew writer, quoting from the prophet Jeremiah wrote, “For I will be merciful to their iniquities, And their sins will I remember no more.” (Heb. 8:12; Jer. 31:34)

Praise be to God for his wonderful grace!

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