

world. He came that He might pay the penalty of our grubbiness and wrong. Suffering and dying, He carried all that cuts us off from God and would condemn us forever. Jesus died so that we might be made whiter than the snow. Three days after His death, Jesus rose from the grave where His body had been laid. He had risen from the dead and, as the living Saviour, offers new life to all who come to Him.

I once heard the head butler of the British Embassy in Washington tell how he became a Christian. Walking down Pennsylvania Avenue one Saturday night, he heard some music and went into the Mission Hall from where the sound was coming. He found himself sitting next to a rather smelly homeless man, but he

was transfixed when the preacher spoke on a Bible verse, 'Wash and be clean!' That very night, for the first time, he knew he needed forgiveness from God, and He asked Jesus to become His Lord and Saviour. He began to follow Christ, eventually becoming the superintendent of that Mission.

This Christmas time, will you ask Jesus to make you as white as snow? Will this December 25th be a white Christmas for you?

God Says:

"... though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool."

I would like to know more about Jesus Christ.

- Please send me a free DVD about the life of Jesus.
- Please send me a free copy of John's Gospel (a book of the Bible that describes Jesus' life.)
- Please send me a free booklet on how to become a Christian.

Name: _____

Address: _____

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whiter Than Snow

by Roger Carswell



Early this year, near to where I live, there appeared what looked like an Alpine mountain covered with snow. It was beautiful. Anyone who didn't know the area would think they were living in a European ski resort. In fact, it was the city's rubbish dump, but heavy snow had transformed the mound of decomposing waste into a glistening white hill.

When snow falls, litter, rubbish and ugliness are covered and their appearance is changed.

Years ago, long before Jesus was born, the Royal Physician serving in the palace of Jerusalem began proclaiming God's message to the people. He was hardly living in a country where much snow fell even in the winter, but he spoke about God's willingness to forgive those who turn from their wrong ways and come to Him:

"... though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool."

That is quite a promise! God is not speaking of the colour of our skin. He is the One who created such diversity in human appearance and personality. God was offering to make any of us morally pure if we trust Him.

Even the meteorological office cannot be sure if this year will be a 'white Christmas' but God assures all who turn to Him that He will completely cover every sin. He is able to forgive all that is past, making us, as far as He is concerned, as pure as the driven snow. To know that God has forgiven all your sin is a wonderful thing.

Forgiveness cannot be earned or bought, nor can it be bestowed on us by a priest. It is offered as a gift from God.

The same prophet – called Isaiah – who said that God could make us as white as snow, also prophesied that God would send a sign to the world in that a virgin would conceive and give birth to a child. Explaining more, he said:

"... Unto us a child is born, unto us a Son is given ... and His name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. Of the increase of His government and peace there shall be no end."

God the Father was going to send the Son to be the Saviour of the world. This is what Christmas is all about. God the Creator became like those whom He had created. God took on Himself a human body. Shepherds, wise men, angels and even His mother, worshipped Him. He lived a pure, spotless life. And yet He was crucified. And once again, Isaiah, speaking 700 years before Jesus the Messiah was born, tells us why:

"All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to His own way; And the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all."

Jesus, fulfilling these prophecies, was born to take on Himself the sin of the

