

The Week of the Third Sunday after Pentecost, Sunday, June 26, 2022

Scripture: Isaiah 1:18

“Come, let us reason together, saith the Lord. Though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be white as snow; though they be as red as crimson, they shall be like wool.”

Our God is always a God of sincere love. Despite our committing terrible sins, God still loves us. God calls His children to reason with him, and to repent and to return to him. (Come let's face one another.) He shows us that the greatness of sin is nothing before Him because we are so precious to Him. He is fundamentally a loving God, with no exceptions. He does not want any human being to perish in sin and to miss heaven.

God has given powerful evidence that the Jews, who are defendants, are guilty of breaching the treaty, of sinning and offending God. (Isa 1:2-15) God calls them to do repairs. When God says, “Come, come, let us reason (Isa. 1:18), we can see the Lord still seeking them to repent and abandon their evil ways, no matter how badly they have been corrupted. The Lord told them that your red sins would be white. Why is sin red? Because red is the color of “blood.” In Isaiah 1:15 the guilt of blood is present in the people's hands. Whiteness, on the contrary, is the color of purity, the absence of the guilt of sin. Here God is willing to change them. This is the kind of language King David used when he cried out to God for forgiveness of the sin of taking Bethsheba and killing her husband. (Ps. 51:7-9) In Isaiah 1:18, God's argument is to commit to forgive his people. This is a wonderful love.

Prayer: Almighty God, by our baptism into the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ, you turn us from the old life of sin. Though our sins were as red as scarlet, you have forgiven them and covered us with the righteousness of Christ. Grant that we who are reborn to new life in Him may live in righteousness and holiness all our days, through your Son Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

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