

Whiter Than Snow

Introduction:

1. Snow is often used in Scripture to represent purity and holiness.
2. At the transfiguration of Jesus, His garments are described as being “exceeding white as snow” (Mark 9:3; cf. Matthew 28:3).
3. Daniel wrote of the Ancient of Days, “whose garment was white as snow, and the hair of his head like the pure wool” (Daniel 7:9).
4. In John’s vision of Jesus, “His head and his hairs were white like wool, as white as snow” (Revelation 1:14).
5. This picture of purity is also applied to one who sins are forgiven by the blood of Jesus...

- I. White as Snow (Isaiah 1:18)
 - A. The stain and guilt of sin is great – unable to be removed by any human methods or means.
 - B. Job spoke of washing with “snow water,” but remaining unable to remove sin (Job 9:30-33).
 - C. Jeremiah wrote of washing with lye soap but remaining powerless to take away sin (Jeremiah 2:22).
 - D. However, Isaiah taught of a washing that could forgive sin – making them “white as snow” (Isaiah 1:16-20).
 1. This washing involved repentance of sin.
 2. It also demanded obedience of the will of God.
 - E. David declared that God’s cleansing would make one “whiter than snow” (Psalm 51:2, 7).
 1. In order for snow to fall, water vapor must condense around something – usually dust or debris in the air.
 2. Thus, at the heart of every snowflake is a nucleus of dirt.
 3. As pure as snowfall may appear, it is still dirty.
 4. When God takes away sin, it is removed entirely – there is no trace of it remaining!
 - F. All people should desire to be “whiter than snow.”

- II. “Whiter Than Snow” #252

Lord Jesus, I long to be perfectly whole;
 I want Thee forever to live in my soul;
 Break down every idol, cast out every foe:
 Now wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

Lord Jesus, look down from Thy throne in the skies,
 And help me to make a complete sacrifice;
 I give up myself and whatever I know:
 Now wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

Lord Jesus, Thou seest I patiently wait;
 Come now, and within me a new heart create;
 To those who have sought Thee, Thou never saidst No:
 Now was me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

- A. This song expresses the desire to be forgiven fully of sin.
- B. It states the need for genuine repentance and denial of self (cf. Matthew 16:24-26).
- C. It emphasizes the faithfulness of the Lord to forgive the obedient (Revelation 22:17).

III. "Fear Not, Little Flock"

#52

Fear not, little flock, says the Savior divine;
 The Father has willed that the kingdom be thine;
 O soil not your garments with sin here below:
 My sheep and my lambs must be whiter than snow.

Far whiter than snow, and as fair as the day,
 For Christ is the fountain to wash guilt away;
 O give Him, poor sinner, that burden of thine,
 And enter the fold with the ninety and nine.

Yon sheep that was lost in the valley of sin,
 Was found by the Shepherd, who gathered him in;
 With songs of thanksgiving the hills did resound,
 "My friends and my neighbors, the lost sheep is found."

Ride over temptation and cease your alarms:
 Your Shepherd is Jesus, your refuge His arms;
 He'll never forsake you, a Brother and Friend,
 But love you and save you in worlds without end.

- A. This song is based upon Jesus' statement in Luke 12:32 – "*Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.*"
- B. God wants to save man from sin!
- C. However, to be saved, one must choose to follow the Shepherd (1 John 1:6-9).
- D. When one walks in the light, there is nothing to fear!

Conclusion: Chorus

Whiter than the snow, I long to be, dear Savior, whiter than the snow.

1. If one truly longs to be whiter than the snow, he must obey the Gospel of Christ.
2. The blood of Jesus will make one's sins whiter than the snow.