

Shining Light

Jesus said, "I am come a light into the world, that whosoever believeth on me should not abide in darkness."

Are you clean?

"I'm not dirty. I don't need a bath" says the young boy as his mother insists on dunking him in the bathtub. "You might not think you are dirty but I can see that you are", replies his mother.

What was the problem? Who was right? The issue was that the young lad's sense of what was and what wasn't dirty obviously didn't match with his mother's standard of cleanliness.

There are a lot of people today who readily tell me that they aren't bad people. There are some who even go so far as to tell me that they are good people who have never done anything wrong. When questioned a little, most have watered down God's holy standard to the point that they believe they have fulfilled it.

It is not our evaluation of ourselves that counts, but God's.

One person even told me that he was perfect already and that we need to "look inside and realise this". Alas, all these positions fail. If I compare myself with myself then of course I will find no fault, but if I compare myself with God as seen in His Word (the Bible) then I find I fall woefully

*Though your sins be as
scarlet they shall be white
as snow*

Isaiah 1:18

short. "But these, measuring themselves by themselves, and comparing themselves with themselves, are not intelligent" (2 Corinthians 10:12).

Jesus told us that God is so holy that even hatred is considered as bad as murder; lust is as bad as adultery. God's evaluation of us is this: "for all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God" and "There is not a righteous man, not even one".

Just as the boy argued with his mother because he considered himself to be clean so many people argue today that they are clean and righteous. Alas, just as it was the mother's higher standard of cleanliness that mattered, it is not our evaluation of ourselves that counts, but God's evaluation. God, in absolute perfection, is the

"Blessed is the man against whom the Lord counts no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit. " Psalm 32:2

For a free Bible (available in several languages) or more information please contact:
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ARE YOU CLEAN? (CONTINUED)

one with the true measure of righteousness and there is no-one who meets that standard except Jesus *"in whom was no sin"* and in whom God found His delight.

This sinless man who gave Himself and *"loves us, and has washed us from our sins in his blood"* wants to make you clean before God today. God will accept His sacrifice as the payment for our sins. All you and I have to do is ask Him to save us and God says that our *"sins and their lawlessnesses I will never remember any more"* (Hebrews 10:17).



The Lord Jesus never sinned and therefore when He gave Himself to bear the punishment for the sins of us all He made Himself the ransom for us. By confessing that we are sinners and asking Him to save us from our sins He will remove every sin and make us completely suitable for God's presence.

"Despise thou the riches of his goodness, and forbearance, and long-suffering, not knowing that the goodness of God leads thee to repentance?" (Romans 2:4)

God won't save us unless we see ourselves as He sees us. Then we can see clearly that we need to be saved and find, with incredible joy, that God has already provided a saviour in whom we can trust for the removal of every sin. Repentance is the beginning of God's tremendous blessing as He transforms us from a filthy sinner into His own beloved child and showers upon us every blessing in Christ. God is ready to save you. Open your eyes and see things as they really are.

PUZZLES

P	R	N	I	S	D	I	H	O	C	B
H	U	Y	L	A	E	D	N	D	L	A
N	E	D	A	L	C	S	J	O	E	M
F	Y	A	B	N	E	R	O	B	A	T
G	S	W	O	S	E	D	H	K	N	E
H	N	E	U	M	M	T	N	Y	S	W
O	L	M	R	O	A	M	O	V	E	E
J	I	H	O	U	T	C	L	A	S	I
E	S	N	O	N	T	E	B	E	T	I
S	E	M	V	E	H	Y	J	H	T	T
U	R	K	T	S	E	R	O	S	A	L
S	N	O	O	D	W	N	I	F	X	H

Bible Wordsearch

FIND THE
UNDERLINED
WORDS:



Come to me, all who labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. (Matthew 11 v 28). The blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. (1 John 1 v 17)

Recommended website for more info:

www.preacherscorner.org.uk

"For God is one, and the mediator of God and men one, the man Christ Jesus," 1 Timothy 2:5

AS WHITE AS SNOW



Hopefully by the time you read this, the cold snowy weather will be long behind us and the warmth of spring will be in the air. While the snow can look beautiful and be fun to play in, icy conditions can lead to unsteadiness, falling and getting hurt. However, one wonderful thing we only really appreciate when we see freshly fallen snow is how white it is. No paper is this white and no artist can fully render its whiteness in any painting.

The bible tells us in Isaiah 1 v18 *"Come now, let us reason together, saith the LORD, though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow"*. God has provided the only way for sinners to be saved from eternal judgement - through his son Jesus Christ. He took the judgement due to you for your sins so that you can be washed clean from the stain and made **as white as snow**.

God appeals that you come to him just as you are - yes with all your sin - acknowledge your helpless sinful condition before him and ask for his mercy.

One man in the bible Luke 18v13 prayed to God these words "God be merciful to me a sinner!" Cry out to him for his mercy in your own words. God loves to forgive repenting sinners. What a joy it is to have the stain of all those sins eradicated, knowing that Jesus has removed them for ever when he suffered and died on the cross at Calvary. And because Jesus rose again from death we know that even death cannot change that. Also because he has gone to heaven, all forgiven sinners are saved for not only life but beyond death when he will take us to heaven where he is! This is the sure hope of a Christian. Is it yours? If not, may God's reasoning with you today make wonderful sense, causing you to appreciate what Jesus has done to save you. We could never save ourselves – how great is God's mercy! **You can be washed as white as snow**. What we think is impossible is indeed possible with God.

To accept the Lord Jesus Christ as your Saviour simply pray! Tell him you know you are a sinner and that you're sorry for your sins and ask him to save you from those sins. He will take your sins and remove every one of them! Jesus said "*him that comes to me I will in no wise cast out.*" John 6v37. Make him your Saviour today!

"There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear ... We love because he has first loved us. 1 John 4v18-19

SAVED FROM CERTAIN DEATH



A couple were having a little break staying at a seaside resort where they had not been before. There was a beautiful stretch of sand and they set out to walk along it. They enjoyed their conversation and the sight of the waves rolling in. However, they did not realise that the tide came in very quickly and suddenly they discovered that they were surrounded by water. As neither could swim they were very frightened. Just when their plight seemed hopeless they heard a shout "stand where you are". It was the call of a boatman who had seen

their danger and rowed to the spot and saved them.

This is a good illustration of the way of salvation. The two could do nothing to help themselves. Their deliverance from a watery grave depended entirely on another and obeying his call. For the salvation of your precious soul, "stand where you are" and ask God for the forgiveness of your sins, putting your faith in the finished work of the Lord Jesus on the cross of Calvary. *"Neither is there salvation in any other; for there is no other name under heaven or given among men, whereby we must be saved"* (Acts 4:12).

Rock of Ages! Cleft for me,
Let me hide myself in Thee;
Let the water and the blood,
From thy riven side which flowred.
Be of sin the double cure,
Cleansing from its guilt and power.

Not the labour of my hands
Could fulfil the law's demands;
Could my zeal no respite know,
Could my tears for ever flow,
Nought for sins could ever atone
But thy blood and thine alone.

A. M. Toplady

***"For we do not
preach ourselves, but
Christ Jesus"
2 Corinthians 4:5***