

## **We are White as Snow!**

As I write, the snow is falling outside. There are children out playing in it, I can hear their squeals and laughter. The schools are closed, and my place of employment as well. Years ago, that would mean a free day. No so now a days. School will be virtual, and I'll work from home.

Do you remember the feeling of excitement when you were a kid getting a "snow day"? I do! We lived in a sort of rural development. We had a yard with a hill that was great for sledding. Donning multiple layers of clothing, we would bundle up and go out to create the best sled run we could. If it were fashioned exactly right, we could travel the length of our yard and right into the neighbor's yard that ran perpendicular to ours. We used fiberglass boxes for sleds. It was, at times, a complete family affair. My mom would come out with us to "play" and my dad would film it on an old 8mm movie camera. Memories I cherish from 55 (or more) years ago. Life was so much simpler then.

Snow is amazing isn't it? I mean really, think about it. Moisture in the atmosphere gathers as it evaporates from earth, it forms clouds and when they are too "full" they let loose. In the winter, that moisture freezes, and it falls to the earth as snow. Covering everything with its white blanket that shimmers and glows. Laying on the flat areas, sticking in trees, changing the shapes of bushes and everything it covers. Snowflakes that are as unique and individual as each of us, falling on everything in sight. Not differentiating one thing from another, just landing where it will. Then, should there be wind, it moves and shapes even differently still. Amazing!

As beautiful as it is, it can be dangerous as well: covering roads, making travel treacherous, risking frostbite or hyperthermia if exposed, physical injury while trying to dig out, loosing valuable hours at your job. None of these things ever come to mind when you are a kid zipping down a hill in a fiberglass box.

How can something so absolutely amazing also be so absolutely terrible? It depends on your point of view, how it impacts you and your level of involvement in the storm. If you are a kid, it can be fun. If you have to go out in it, not so much fun. If you must shovel it, definitely not fun!

That sort of sums up life ... Perspective, effect, and action.

Our perspective on life creates the effect it has on us. And, the effect then causes our actions. If we approach life with a grateful heart, then we can lessen the effect. If we lessen the effect our actions will reflect the gratefulness we have. Does that make sense?

In this past year, there have been a lot of disappointments. So many things had to be cancelled. Things that mark the passing of time. Being unable travel and visit family, to gather for holidays, birthdays, graduations, and even funerals. All have caused anguish for many. Myself included. Our perspective focused on what we do not have and can not do. I am guilty of viewing things in that perspective.



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Then, last week on my birthday no less, this was my “verse of the day”...

*For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 8:38-39*

And I realized that no matter what I may be missing on this earth, nothing can separate me from the love of God. No matter what I cannot do, or where I cannot go, or who I cannot see, God has not abandoned me. Think about that! It changed my perspective. It makes me to rejoice in every day no matter how depressing it may be. God loves me no matter what. And He loves you too!

The snow that has been falling has turned to sleet now. I can hear it pinging on my window. Looking out the window, everything is white and clean in its appearance. That is how we look to God when we accept Jesus as our savior. We are washed white as snow. The snow and ice will give way to spring, but our white covering will last for eternity! Kinda changes your perception, huh?

May the peace of the lord be with you on this winter’s day!

*Cindy Lee*

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[Click Here for the hymn, “Nothing but the Blood of Jesus”](#)

*Robert Lowry, pub.1876*

*What can wash away my sin?  
Nothing but the blood of Jesus;  
What can make me whole again?  
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.  
Refrain:*

*Oh! precious is the flow  
That makes me white as snow;  
No other fount I know,  
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.*