

Clothed with Scarlet

"She fears not the snow for her family, for all her household are doubly clothed with scarlet" Proverbs 31:21 Amplified



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In Bible days cloth was dyed for two reasons: 1) it sealed the weave, making it thicker and holding the heat; 2) it made it attractive to look at. This lady loved her family. She prepared ahead of time so that they would be warm and protected in winter, and she wanted them to look attractive. She was not so busy with her hobbies, her career or helping other people that she neglected her family.

Most of us prepare for winter. We check our cars, put storm doors and windows on our homes, put a blanket on our beds, bring out our winter clothing and eat warmer food. All of this is good and is needful; however, let's look at another way of clothing our family with scarlet. The greatest and most fearful winter of all is the winter of our hearts and souls, such as when a loved one refuses to accept Jesus as his/her Savior, or when we know a loved one is dying without having surrendered his/her life to Christ. However, we have no need to fear the cold winter of pain, sorrow, and suffering when our loved ones are covered in the scarlet of the blood of Jesus Christ.

The most important way we show our love is to speak and live a clear-cut gospel message: to lead our loved ones to repent of their sins, put their trust in Jesus as Savior and accept the shed blood on the cross as full payment for their sins. There is no greater joy than to see our family covered in the scarlet robe of righteousness that Jesus gives to each believer. However, even as believers we all go through winters of the spirit, soul

and body. Some of those winters may be: physical illness, depression, rejection, loneliness, loss of a loved one, betrayal of adultery, addictions to drugs, alcohol, pornography, homosexuality, eating disorders, divorce or abortion. The list of pain is never ending.

How do we survive and come through those winters? By preparing ahead of time. Noah did not build the ark in the flood. He built it before the flood, and we have to do the same.

By daily reading and applying the Bible; allowing the Holy Spirit to build Christ's character in our lives; walking in daily repentance; being quick to forgive people; trusting God is in control; and according to Romans 8:28, He will work all things together for our good. We need to be constantly looking for God's faithfulness and praising Him in the midst of our situation. Through God's amazing grace, I've done this through many winter storms of my heart and soul. My trust and faith in Jesus has daily increased. I've seen His constant faithfulness and grace to help me through each situation, and God has brought springtime after each winter season. He'll do the same for you...trust Him.

— Janice McBride

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