

# Narnia

November 28, 2018



While walking from Plant One back to my office in the Global Offices, my mind was heavy on the details of the many people who had shared the struggles they were going through. With my eyes turned to the ground as I passed by Barbara Armstrong's flower gardens now covered with white, my sight changed to a wonderous scene. I heard myself whispering, "Hello Narnia."

The newest snow storm to hit southern lower Michigan covered the trees in an almost magical scene. Every surface, it seems, every branch, every tree trunk, the ground and even the electrical wires turned white with the clinging snow.

For a moment, I was transported to a place where the wind whispered through the tree limbs so softly it didn't even move the smallest snowflake. It was indeed magical.

Narnia was an imaginary place of wonder from the stories written by C.S. Lewis long ago. Lewis had a way of writing children's stories that even adults could close their eyes, move beyond their adulthood, and feel its presence.

For me, the heavy feeling I had carried way too far was lifted immediately by the beauty God had created. Only a day before the ground had been covered by flattened grass now turning brown and leaves from the area trees mixed with mud. God had once again covered the ugly with a fresh covering of clean white snow.

I was reminded of something the prophet Isaiah had said in that Old Testament book with his name.

*Wash yourselves, make yourselves clean; put away the evil of your doings from before My eyes. Cease to do evil, learn to do good; seek justice, rebuke the oppressor; defend the fatherless, plead for the widows.*

*"Come now, and let us reason together." Says the Lord,*

*"Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow;*

*Though they are red like crimson, they shall be as wool.*

*If you are willing and obedient, you shall eat the good of the land;*

*But if you refuse and rebel, you shall be devoured by the sword".*

*For the mouth of the Lord has spoken.*

This isn't the magical place called Narnia. But, I was reminded how God can take the crisis and situation in our lives with all the dirtiness of life and cover us with a fresh new beginning. He uses not the pure white snow to cover us, but uses His everlasting love, mercy, and righteousness to cover our sins.

Even as adults who are nothing more than grown up children, we can enter into that place of safety and covering of God's peace and rest. It is then that our dirty ground becomes white and covered as only God can do.