

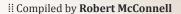
Boys and girls, in God's Word you will read all about black hair, black horses, the heavens being black with clouds, the black and darkness of the night, but not once will you ever find sin being described as black!

So how do the Scriptures describe sin? Well, to get the right answer you need to go to Isaiah1:18. There you will read that your sins are as scarlet and that they are also red like crimson. Scarlet is a bright red colour and crimson is a deep red colour. Both are very striking colours.

This idea of sin being red and not black takes me back to my own childhood days at home. I can recall that my mother was always concerned and annoyed whenever she saw certain types of stains on my clothing: grass marks, muck splashes, and oil marks from my bicycle chain. Worst of all however, were the stains caused by things like tomato soup, beetroot and spaghetti sauce! Those stains were red and once a mess was made down the

front of my shirt (usually my best shirt) it was almost impossible to get it out again. Regardless of soap powders, spin cycles or a severe scrubbing down of the area affected... the stain was there for good!

The Bible is right to describe sin as scarlet and crimson, for that is what it is, bright and noticeable for all to see. Sin stains. Sin spoils. Sin stays. There is nothing that any of us can do to reverse the mess that sin leaves upon the lives of men and women, and boys and girls. However, with God all things are possible, because the verse in Isaiah goes on to say that our sins shall be as white as snow and they shall be as wool. This change only comes about by the cleansing power of the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ which is able to wash them all away. "The blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin." (1 John 1:7). I wonder, is your life still stained by sin or have you repented and asked the Lord to wash away all of your sin, cleanse you and make you as white as snow? I trust that you have.



"Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool."

Quiz

First: fill in all the answers to the questions in the spaces below.

Second: take the letters from the highlighted boxes and rearrange them to spell a very colourful thing found in the Bible. Clue: Genesis 9.

- There are two colours of money mentioned in Acts 3v6 that Peter didn't have to give away.
- 2. The hanging decorations at the royal feast in Esther 1v6 were of these three colours.
- The boats in Ezekiel 27v7 had embroidered linen sails in these two colours.
- This was the colour of the cattle that Jacob took from Laban as payment for his hire in Genesis 30v32.
- 5. This was the colour of the bushy locks of hair described in Song of Solomon 5v11.

Answer (to be sent in)

PRIZECI

Are you 12 or under? Send your answer, name, address and church to:

Rev. Stephen Pollock

Email: answer@fpvision.org 15 Fernagreevagh Road, Loughgall, Armagh, BT61 8PN

WINNERS LAST TIME

- » Hannah Reid (Larne)
- » Aaron Johnston (Coragarru)
- » Adam Bowman (Magherafelt)
- » Caleb Haffey (Dromore)
- » Joshua Kerrigan (Castlederg)
- » Lucy Woods (Londonderry)
- » Joshua Hylands (Comber)
- » Leah Shields (Markethill)