

A Meditation for Ash Wednesday

Though Dust to Dust and Ash to Ash

Though dust to dust and ash to ash,
 Be sum of our earthly days,
Yet we are more than passing cloud,
 Thus we dare to sing Your Praise!
You fashioned dust to bear Your Stamp,
 Your Image sharp and clear.
Have Mercy and restore us, Lord,
 Though marred yet You hold us dear!
You wept to see this clay You made,
 Love reduced in The Fall by pride,
To lost and wasted dust and ash
 We who that Ancient Foe derides!
Yet falls Your Tears from Blood stained Cross
 Upon we Your injured ones,
Wipe clean and breathe on us again,
 O CHRIST, reborn Your daughters and Your sons! ¹

PSALM 51:10

Create in me a clean heart, O GOD, And renew a steadfast spirit within me. ²

II CORINTHIANS 5:21

For He made Him Who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become The Righteousness of GOD in Him. ³

MATTHEW 5:22

Since you have purified your souls in obeying The Truth through The Spirit in sincere love of the brethren, love one another fervently with a pure heart. ⁴

A Prayer of Repentance

O GOD, Your Love is ever Present. In This Season of Lent, You remind us that Your Grace is always calling us back to You through The Death and Resurrection of JESUS CHRIST. O Lord, look kindly on all Your servants. Lead us to Repentance. Forgive us our sins. Cleanse us in Your Mercy. Renew us by Your HOLY SPIRIT. Help us to live The Power of The Gospel. Grant us Eternal Life. And bring us Your Peace now and forever. In The Name of GOD The Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen!

¹ Adapted from hymn "Though dust to dust and ash to ash..." Magnificat, February, 2013, p 174.

² NKJV, PSALM 51:10.

³ NKJV, II CORINTHIANS 5:21.

⁴ NKJV, MATTHEW 5:22.