

**A Reformed Life**  
**Isaiah 1:16-18**  
By Russell Earl

Thesis: I want to show what is required to have a reformed life.

Intro: 1. A reformed life is a changed life.  
2. What does God require of one to have a reformed life?

I. Worship & Fellowship from a Pure Heart (Isaiah 1:16)

A. Step 1 - Wash Yourselves and Make Yourselves Clean (**Isaiah 1:16a**)

1. This is a spiritual cleansing.
2. This is a command to the people which they must obey.
3. If man repents and changes his life, God forgives and blots out sin (**Ps 51:1-2**)

B. Step 2 - Put away the evil of your doings from before My eyes (**Isaiah 1:16b**)

1. Abolish idolatry, that's the command.
2. Remove worship that is faulty, worship that is a sham.
3. Put away all those who accompany you in doing evil.

C. Step 3 - Cease to do evil (**Isaiah 1:16c**)

1. With the putting away of all false worship...
  - a. God commanded putting away all moral evil in worship and toward one's fellow man.
2. All three commands are essential.
  - a. 9 times in Deuteronomy we find the phrase "put away the evil". This is a reference to putting sinfulness.

II. Acceptance with God (Isaiah 1:17)

A. Learn to do good (**v.17a**)

1. This demand indicates that man does not inherently know what is right; he must be taught.
2. Isaiah is saying that the people are so far gone in evil that they must be taught what is well and good in God's sight.

B. Seek Justice in all things (**v.17b**)

1. Seek justice not perversity.
2. Be upright and honest in all your doings.
3. Secretive and manipulating actions are sinful.

C. Relieve the oppressed (**v.17c**)

1. Oppression had grown out of the corrupt judicial system.
2. Indifference was displayed towards the rights of others.

D. Defend the Fatherless & Plead for the Widow. (**v.17d**)

1. Those who had no father or husband to safeguard their rights should be protected by judges.
2. These groups had been neglected by the rulers and judges for there was no profit in spending time in their behalf.
3. Such practical reforms must follow the cleansing God demanded.

### III. Lessons for us today.

#### A. Let us reason together (**Isaiah 1:18**)

1. What were they reasoning about with God?
2. They were reasoning about their sins (Isaiah 1:18)
3. Though they had sins they could be cleansed and white as snow.

#### B. Willing and obedient or refusal and rebellion (Isaiah 1:19-20)

1. God promises goodness to those who are obedient (**Isa 1:19**)
2. Refusal and rebellion results in punishment, as always (**Isaiah 1:20**)

### Application & Conclusion:

1. The Christian life must be a truly reformed life.
2. The Christian life is a different life from the worldly.
3. Therefore we must look to God's word for guidance in living a life changed by God and His Word.
4. Full Invitation

### Non-Christians must:

Hear – James 1:22, Romans 10:15,17

Believe – Jn 12:44, Jn 8:24, Mt 16:16

Repent – Luke 13:2-3

Confess – John 12:42, Romans 10:9

Be Baptized – 1 Pt 3:21, Acts 22:16, Col 2:11-12, Mk 16:16, Rom 6:3-4

Live faithfully – John 14:15, Rev 2:10

### Christians must:

Repent & Pray: James 5:16, 1 John 1:9