



COME NOW, LET US REASON TOGETHER

You may be surprised when I tell you this, but the opening line of Isaiah 1:18, *“Come now, let us reason together,” says the Lord.* is one of my favorite things. Not for any great theological reason, even though there is a great theological reason that follows this opening line, but because it symbolizes something really personal within the relationship between me and God. In my mind, it represents his great love towards me and the unique way he formed me.

“Come now, let us reason together.” (Isaiah 1:18) The New Living Translation states it this way – *“Come now, let us argue this out together.”* I don’t care to argue with people, I’m more a searcher, a treasure hunter - I just want to know. Either way, I prefer the word reason, but they both work.

Whenever I come across this verse, I think, *my God is willing to sit and reason things out with me.* He knows I’m going to want to talk about things, to go back and forth, because he knows who I am and what I’m about. I’m curious and have lots of questions. Not everyone likes this about me. How many times did my parents say, *“Because I said so?”* How many times has someone said to me, *“Why do you ask?”* Many people don’t like to be questioned I’ve learned, but I do it because I’m interested in you and your story and I want to understand.

You know how when someone you really love is a certain way, they are just who they are and you love that about them - well, most of the time you do. Maybe sometimes you don’t, but mostly you do. You know how they are bent, so to speak. Well, I imagine God sitting there, waiting for me to be who I am and he’s looking forward to our time reasoning things out together. He enjoys it.

The depth of our conversation gives him great pleasure. He’s smiling because he just loves that about me.

He’s sitting there looking at me with so much fondness and tenderness, and yes, delight, because after all, he instilled those things in me. He made me that way. And what he makes is good. I feel like that verse was written just for me. It’s an inside thing between us.

“Come now, let us reason together.”

And I know that while God is willing to sit and reason things out with me, because I want to understand, and because that’s how I figure things out, and he knows that sometimes I need to do that exchanging back and forth - he is still God. Yet he is infinitely patient and he is always kind.

While he interacts with me in this way, I also know that in the end God is going to be God and there will be mystery and I have come to see the beauty in his mystery. I have come to love the mysteriousness of God’s being, the mystery of his ways. And if I can’t always love the mystery, I have come to accept it. He is willing to sit with me and reason together if that’s what I need, or if that’s what it takes. He wants me to get it. And I love him for that. But more than “getting it”, because I may be in a situation where I’m never going to get it, or I’m not going to get it for a long time, he also wants me to trust him, more than anything else.

God, you are so good.

You are a good, good father.

That’s who you are.

And I am your daughter.

That’s who I am.