



## **QA: If Saved By God's Grace, Mercy, and Love, Why Require Baptism?** by [John T Polk II](#)

*All Scriptures and comments are based on the **New King James Version**, unless otherwise noted.*

**QUESTION: If we are saved by the grace, mercy, and love of God, why do you require baptism?**

**ANSWER: You mention why God saves, the rest of the Gospel is what God requires humans to do and must also be taught.**

1. **Gospel of Grace:** Have you been saved by the "grace of God?"

For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, that you through His poverty might become rich. (**2 Corinthians 8:9**)

The word "grace" means offering someone something they do not deserve. On earth, Jesus had "the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth" (**John 1:14**). In death, He was "crowned with glory and honor, that He, by the grace of God, might taste death for everyone" (**Hebrews 2:9**). Paul was "to testify to the gospel of the grace of God" (**Acts 20:24**) in which was insisted "as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ" (**Galatians 3:27**).

2. **Gospel of Mercy:**

Therefore know that the LORD your God, He is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and mercy for a thousand generations with those who love Him and keep His commandments. (**Deuteronomy 7:9**)

"Mercy" means to bring help to the afflicted and hurt.

All the paths of the LORD are mercy and truth, To such as keep His covenant and His testimonies. (**Psalms 25:10**)

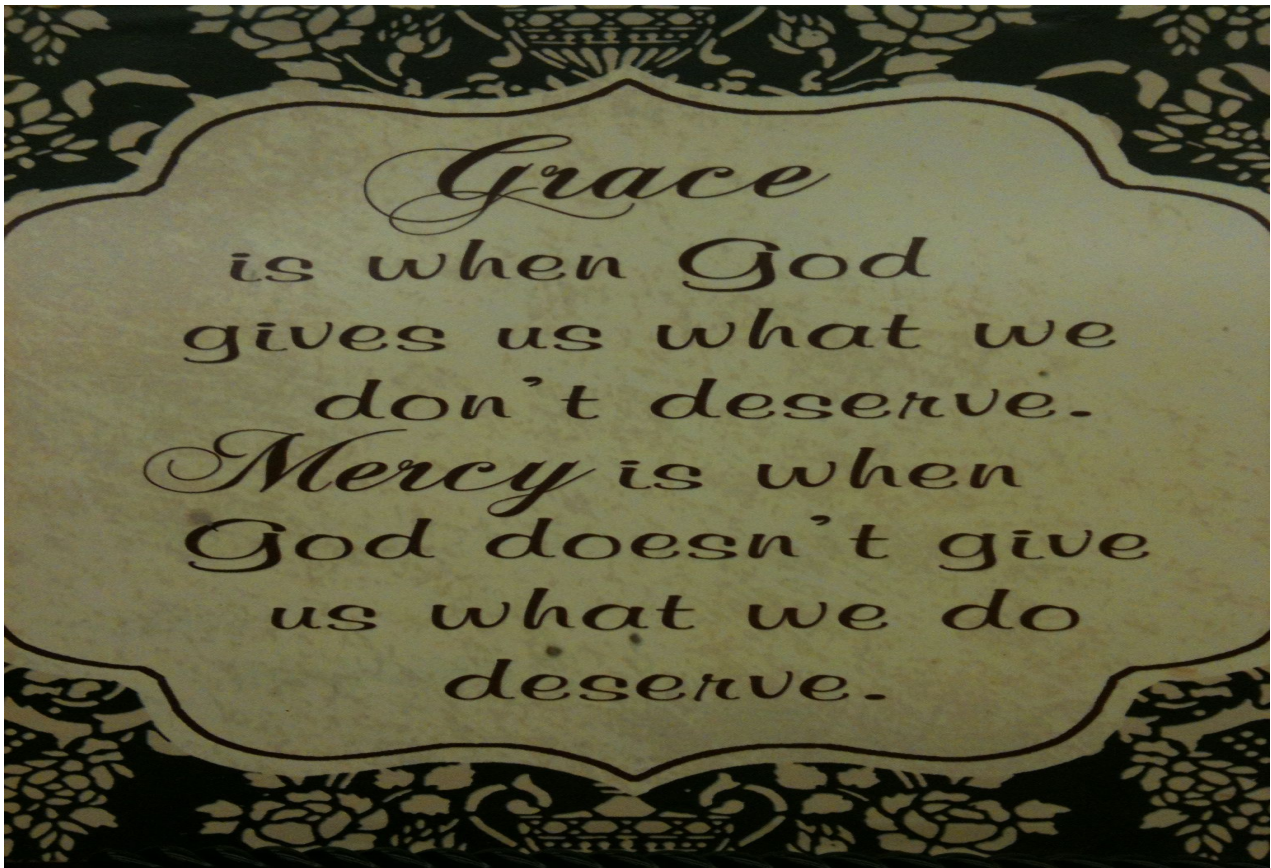
The Apostle Paul wrote,

Although I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and an insolent man; but I obtained mercy because I did it ignorantly in unbelief. (**1 Timothy 1:13**)

Believing in Jesus, he repented and was told:

"Arise and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord." (**Acts 22:16**)

Thus, God showed mercy to the obedient Saul of Tarsus. Let His mercy save you.



3. **Gospel of Love:** The only verse many people seem to accept is

God is love. (**1 John 4:8**)

They think that means "God loves me regardless of how I live." They could not be more wrong, for Jesus Christ also said,

"He who has My commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves Me. And he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and manifest Myself to him." (**John 14:21**)

Sinners want God to love them as they are, but David said of God, "The boastful shall not stand in Your sight; You hate all workers of iniquity" (**Psalms 5:5**). God "desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth" (**1 Timothy 2:4**); and "now commands all men everywhere to repent" (**Acts 17:30**) and

Let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins. (**Acts 2:38**)

— jtp11, September 18, 2022