

BAPTISM, BECAUSE OF REMISSION

David Lipscomb

Is baptism for the remission of sins to one who has been baptized because of the remission of sins?

I do not think any one was ever baptized because his sins were remitted. They may have believed their sins were remitted before they were baptized, but the remission of sins was not the moving cause. There is nothing in remission of sins as a motive to prompt one to be baptized. They may have thought, inasmuch as God had forgiven their sins, they ought to obey his command to be baptized; but in that case the desire to obey God is the moving cause. When a man is baptized to obey God, he is led by a proper motive; and I believe when he does this to obey him, God will forgive his sins, whether he knows the act in which God forgives or not. Man cannot be led by a holier or more acceptable motive than the desire to obey God and so "fulfill all righteousness." It is a dangerous thing to require more than God requires. (QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS BY LIPSCOMB AND SEWELL, pg. 42)