

# WASH AWAY YOUR SINS (Acts 22:16)

Proponents of Baptismal regeneration will point to Acts 22:16 as a “proof-text” to claim that our sins are washed away by water baptism.

*Acts 22:16*

*Arise and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord.'*  
*NKJV*

There are three things mentioned in this passage:

- 1) We are to arise and be baptized
- 2) We are to call upon the name of the Lord
- 3) We are to have our sins washed away.

Now proponents of baptismal regeneration will tell us that it is baptism which washes away our sins, yet there is nothing in scripture to tell us that. On the other hand, scripture speaks strongly regarding the fact that we are saved by calling upon the name of the Lord. Here are some examples:

*Acts 2:21*

*21 And it shall come to pass  
That whoever calls on the name of the LORD  
Shall be saved.'*  
*NKJV*

*Rom 10:13*

*13 For "whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved."  
NKJV*

*1 Cor 6:11*

*11 And such were some of you. But you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God.  
NKJV*

Let's also look at Hebrews 9 which speaks of the that which cleanses us from sin:

*Heb 9:11-15*

*11 But Christ came as High Priest of the good things to come, with the greater and more perfect tabernacle not made with hands, that is, not of this creation. 12 Not with the blood of goats and calves, but with His own blood He entered the Most Holy Place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption. 13 For if the blood of bulls and goats and the ashes of a heifer, sprinkling the unclean, sanctifies for the purifying of the flesh, **14 how much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?** 15 And for this reason He is the Mediator of the new covenant, by means of death, for the redemption of the*

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*transgressions under the first covenant, that those who are called may receive the promise of the eternal inheritance.*

*NKJV*

We see confirmation here that it is not the water that cleanses, but the blood of Christ sacrificed on the cross.

Why should we assume that the sins are washed away by baptism when we see throughout the NT that we are saved by calling upon the name of the Lord and nowhere are we told that we are saved through baptism. Why ignore the second half of that verse when what it says is consistent with the rest of scripture?

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