

**WHY EFFORT NEVER SAVED
YOU AND MERCY ALWAYS HAS**



MERCY OVER PERFORMANCE



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Why Effort Never Saved You and Mercy Always Has

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MERCY OVER PERFORMANCE

OPENING TRUTH

Many believers obey from fear. It's commonly referred to as discipline but Scripture calls it slavery. Performance based faith does not deny God. It replaces trust in Him with trust in effort.

He saved us, not because of any works of righteousness that we have done, but because of His own compassion and mercy, by the cleansing of the new birth (spiritual transformation, regeneration) and renewing by the Holy Spirit.

Titus 3:5 AMP

Salvation began with mercy and Spiritual growth continues by mercy. Any system that moves you away from mercy moves you away from truth.

THREE LIES PERFORMANCE BASED FAITH TEACHES

Lie one.

God accepts me more when I do better.

Truth: God accepted you fully in Christ.

Therefore, since we have been justified [that is, acquitted of sin, declared blameless before God] by faith, [let us grasp the fact that] we have peace with God [and the joy of reconciliation with Him] through our Lord Jesus Christ (the Messiah, the Anointed).

Romans 5:1 AMP

Your standing does not rise and fall with performance.

Lie two.

Failure separates me from God.

Truth: Nothing separates you from His love.

38 For I am convinced [and continue to be convinced—beyond any doubt] that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present and threatening, nor things to come, nor powers, 39 nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, will be able to separate us from the [unlimited] love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our

Lord.

Romans 8:38–39 AMP

Failure reveals where mercy must be trusted, not where love was lost.

Lie three.

Obedience earns God's pleasure.

Truth: Obedience flows from relationship.

If you [really] love Me, you will keep and obey My commandments.

John 14:15 AMP

Love precedes obedience. Obedience does not secure love.

WHAT MERCY MEANS

Mercy is not permission to sin. Mercy is rescue for the undeserving. You did not earn salvation. You received it.

It is because of the Lord's lovingkindness that we are not consumed, because His tender compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great and beyond measure is Your faithfulness.

Lamentations 3:22–23 AMP

Mercy removes fear so obedience can be sincere.

DAILY MERCY CONFESSION

Read this aloud:

I was saved by mercy.

I stand by mercy.

I will grow by mercy.

I obey because I am accepted.

I do not obey to be accepted.

ACT OF OBEDIENCE

When you fail:

Repent quickly.

Do not punish yourself.

When you succeed:

Give thanks.

Do not boast.

Approach God with confidence, not caution.

Therefore let us [with privilege] approach the throne of grace [that is, the throne of God's gracious favor] with confidence and without fear, so that we may receive mercy [for our failures] and find [His amazing] grace to help in time of need [an appropriate blessing, coming just at the right moment].

Hebrews 4:16 AMP

CLOSING TRUTH

You are not being evaluated. You are being shepherded.

He saved us, not because of any works of righteousness that we have done, but because of His own compassion and mercy, by the cleansing of the new birth (spiritual transformation, regeneration) and renewing by the Holy Spirit.

Titus 3:5 AMP

Rest there.

If this reset brought clarity, the Mercy Reset guide exists to help retrain your thinking over seven days, using Scripture to replace performance with trust.

