

I. WHY BAPTIZE INFANTS?

- A. NOT “BAPTISMAL REGENERATION”**
- B. NOT SPIRITUAL INOCULATION**
- C. NOT CULTURAL CEREMONY**
- D. RATHER, COURAGE TO PRAY!** (1Pt.3:21; see 2Sam.7:27; Lk.15:20)

II. THE AUTHORITY OF GOD

- A. WORD & SIGN** (see Gen.3:15,24; see Dt.31:6f w/Ex.25:18; 1S.4:4; Heb.9:5f /Gen.9:12f /Heb.6:13f; Eph.6:2)
- B. TO BELIEVING PARENTS *BEFORE* CHRIST** (Gen.17:1f,7; 22f; 21:4)
- C. TO BELIEVING PARENTS *AFTER* CHRIST** (Mt.28:18f; Col.2:11,12 w/Jer.4:4&14; see Acts 2:38,39)

III. THE NATURE OF GOD: ABUNDANT IN GOODNESS (Ex.34:7; 20:5,6; see Ps.103:8,17,18; see Gal.3; 2Cor.3; Heb.8-10)

IV. THE WAYS OF GOD: COVENANT CHILDREN

- A. ADAM... & HIS CHILDREN** (Rom.5:12f,19; Gen.2:17; 3:24; 4:1; 5:5,8,etc./ Gen.1:28 with 9:1)
- B. NOAH... & HIS CHILDREN** (Gen.6:18f; 7:1,23; 8:1,16f; 9:9f)
- C. ABRAHAM... & HIS CHILDREN** (Gen.17:2f,7-10,19)
- D. ISRAEL... & HIS CHILDREN** (Dt.4:9,37,40; 6:4-9; 7:7,8; 10:15; 29:11,12; 14,22; 30:2,6,19 /Gn49:28,1f; Ps78:3-8)
- E. DAVID... & HIS CHILDREN** (2Sam.7:11f; Ps.89:3,4; 28,29; 34-36; 39f; 132:11,12)
- F. PARENTS... & THEIR CHILDREN** (Mt.9:18f; 15:22; 17:14f; Lk.7:11f; Jn.4:46f)
- G. JESUS... & HIS CHILDREN** (Heb.2:13f; see Rom.5:15f; Eph.1:4f)
- H. YOU... & YOUR CHILDREN** (Acts 2:39,17,46; see 11:14; 16:15; 31-34; see Lk.19:9; Mt.19:14=Mk.10:14 = Lk.18:16; 1Cor.7:14; Eph.6:1; Col.3:20)
- I. CONCLUSION: GOD’S COVENANT/S WITH HIS PEOPLE *INCLUDE* THEIR CHILDREN**

V. BIBLICAL ILLUSTRATIONS OF THIS SOLIDARITY

- A. PIECE & LUMP** (Rom.11:16a; see 1Cor.5:6f)
- B. ROOT & BRANCHES** (Rom.11:16b-24; see 2Tim.3:14,15; 1:5)
- C. CITIZENSHIP *BY BIRTH*** (see Phil.3:20; Acts 21:39; 22:28; see Gen.17:12f; see Eph.2:12f)
- D. INHERITANCE *BY BIRTH*** (see Gal.3:29-4:1; Heb.9:15f; Rom.8:16,17/ see Gal.4:2; Jn.13:33)
- E. SUMMARY: CHILDREN OF THE KINGDOM vs. CHILDREN OF THE WORLD**

(completed on reverse)

VI. A FEW OBJECTIONS ANSWERED

A. SOME OF THOSE BAPTIZED AS INFANTS TURN OUT TO BE UNBELIEVERS

1. circumcised unbelieving Jews (see Rom.9:1f,6f; chps.9-11)
2. examples: Isaac/Ishmael; Jacob/Esau (Gen.17:23; i.e., both circumcised; one inherited, one)
3. note: apostasy of those baptized as adults (see Acts 8:13,18-24; 2Tim.4:10; Heb.6:2f)
4. summary: general choice to means (*from Israel*); specific choice to ends (*Israel*; see Rom.9:4f,6)

B. BAPTIZED AS INFANTS NEVER MAKE THEIR OWN COMMITMENT TO CHRIST

1. infant baptism *is* a personal commitment (e.g., citizenship by birth)
2. daily faithfulness (Acts 2:42; see 2Tim.3:14f)
3. admission to, and celebrations of, the Lord's Supper (see 1Cor.10:21)
4. the benefits of church discipline (Mt.18:15f; see Dt.21:18f)
5. adult confession (see Gen.26:1-6; 23-25; 28:13-22; 32:22f/ see Gal.4:2/ see Ezek.18:14f; Dt.7:9)

C. CHURCHES THAT BAPTIZE INFANTS WILL BAPTIZE ANYBODY (Gen.15:6; 17:7f; Jer.31:28f; 31f; *you* and.../ Acts 2:39; 16:14,15; 31f; 1Cor.7:14)

D. INFANTS ARE TOO YOUNG TO BELIEVE IN CHRIST (Ps.22:9; Jer.1:5; Lk.1:41/ see Dt.1:39)

VII. THE PRIVILEGES & RESPONSIBILITIES OF COVENANT BAPTISM

A. DO NOT TAKE THE LORD'S NAME IN VAIN: REMEMBER YOUR BAPTISM

(Ex.20:7; Lev.19:12/ *water*; see 2Pt.1:9; Col.3:9,10; 5f/ *into Name*; see 1Cor.12:13 / "*improve*"; LC,167)

B. PARENTS: BAPTIZE AND TEACH YOUR CHILDREN! (Mt.28:18f; see Gen.17:7f; 18:19;

Dt.6:7; Ps.78:1f; 2Tim.1:5; 3:14-17; Eph.6:4; Col.3:21/ see Dt.31:12,13; Josh.8:35; 1Sam.1:22; Neh.8:2,3,8; see promissory oaths of *The Covenant of Baptism*)

C. CHILDREN: LEARN, BELIEVE AND DO THE WORD OF GOD IN THE SCRIPTURES SO THAT YOU MAY ENTER INTO YOUR INHERITANCE (2Tim.3:14-17; Heb.12:16,17;

Prov.22:6; Ps.78:6,7; see Gal.4:2; Gen.26:1-6; 23-25; 28:13-22; 32:22f/ see Ezek.18:24f,30f/ see Mt.25:34)

D. CHURCH: EQUIP AND ASSIST PARENTS IN THEIR PRIVILEGES & DUTIES WITH THEIR CHILDREN (Eph.4:11-16; 2Tim.3:14-17)

END

Discussion: Brethren, what shall we DO? (see Acts 2:37)