

“Let the Children Come to Me: Children of the Covenant”
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Sermon text: Matthew 19:13-25

Introduction:

Does Jesus welcome all children to himself in this stage of his ministry?

Why do these disciples bar these people from bringing children and infants?

What sort of blessing were they seeking?

1) Where are we in this stage of redemptive history?

At the time, there was still a very real dividing wall between Jew and Gentile.

Matt 15:22-24

The children that were brought to Jesus were Jewish children. They were members of God's covenant community. That they were covenant members of God's community explains the blessing that they were seeking. It explains why he was so willing to bless them.

Post Pentecost Age

American evangelicalism is established as a deeply personal affair. American Christianity is very individualistic. This has led to a sense of privacy in religion.

Christian religion affects more than the individual. God has always dealt with families.

2) God's plan of redemption began with the family in mind.

Genesis 3:15; 9:9; 17:7; Isaiah 54:13

Luke 22:20; Acts 2:39; Ephesians 2:13; Psalm 22:10; Malachi 2:15

3) Children are to be included in the covenant family of God.

Canons of Dort, First Head: Article 17.

“Since we are to judge of the will of God from His Word, which testifies that the children of believers are holy, not by nature, but in virtue of the covenant of grace, in which they together with the parents are comprehended, godly parents ought not to doubt the election and salvation of their children whom it pleases God to call out of this life in their infancy.”

These children were part of God's covenant people by virtue of their believing parents.