

“YOU BAPTIZE BABIES? I THOUGHT YOU BELIEVED THE BIBLE!”

Acts 2:39

- I. The *parties* of God’s covenant involve households.
- II. The *prophecies* of God’s covenant include households.
- III. The *pictures* of God’s covenant incorporate households.
- IV. The *promises* of the covenant invoke households.

QUESTIONS FOR FAMILY WORSHIP

1. Is there an explicit example of a baby being baptized or an explicit command for parents to baptize their babies anywhere in the Bible? If not, doesn’t that mean we shouldn’t do it?
2. When God covenanted with Adam, Noah, Abraham, Israel, and David, did He covenant with individuals or households? How would that have affected how the Jews heard Peter’s words when he assured them that the promise was for them and their children?
3. What was circumcision a sign of? Why would God command babies to be circumcised? What are the implications of that for baptism?
4. Does baptism save? Are we united to God through the waters?
5. How does infant baptism change the way parents look at their kids and kids think about themselves? Why does it matter?
6. What do you think was the strongest argument given in the sermon for household baptism? What was the weakest? What other arguments might you make in favor of this biblical teaching?

QUESTIONS FOR PRIVATE REFLECTION

1. Is my view of baptism and the covenant more shaped by the radical individualism of my culture or the family inclusivism of my Bible?
2. Why would the Jews have been in an uproar if their children were suddenly excluded from God’s covenant? How does their silence provide weighty evidence in favor of infant baptism?
3. Am I enjoying the blessedness of union with the Triune God through separation from sin which is signified and sealed in the baptismal waters?