

Baptism

(Are there Bible verse about infant baptism?)

1. Baptism Law or Gospel?

2. Gifts given in baptism

a. Forgiveness of sins

- i. **Acts 2:38** And Peter said to them, “Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit
- ii. **Acts 22:16** “And now why do you wait? Rise and be baptized and wash away your sins, calling on His name.”

b. God rescues us from death and the devil

- i. **Romans 6:3-5** Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? We were buried therefore with Him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with Him in a death like His, we shall certainly be united with Him in a resurrection like His.

c. God gives eternal salvation

- i. **1 Peter 3:21** Baptism, which corresponds to this [Noah’s flood], now saves you, not as removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ.
- ii. **Titus 3:5-7** He saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to His own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that being justified by His grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

3. Infant baptism

4. Passages that allude to infant baptism

5. Households in the Bible

6. Sources outside the Bible

a. 3rd Century child's tombstone

- i. Dedicated to the departed. Florentius made this inscription for his worthy son Apronianus who lived one year and nine months and five days. As he was truly loved by his grandmother and she knew that his death was imminent, she asked the church that he might depart from the world as a believer.
- ii. I, Zosimus, a believer from believers, lie here having lived 2 years, 1 month, 25 days
 1. "believer" was the term used for those who were baptized. A different word was used for those who were being catechized.

b. Origen (c. 185-c. 253)

- i. In *Homilies of Luke*, he states "therefore children also are baptized"
- ii. In *Homilies of Leviticus* he states baptism is given "according to the custom of the Church, to infants also"
- iii. In *Commentary to the Romans* "For this reason, moreover, the Church received from the apostles the tradition of baptizing infants too"

c. Irenaeus of Lyons writes c.180 "For he (Jesus) has come to save all of them by himself: all those, I say, who through him are reborn into God, infants, young children, boys, the mature and older people"

d. Hippolytus' (c. 170-c. 235) Order of Service for the rite of baptism was as follows: first the children were baptized, including the smallest children who could not yet speak, for which reason their parents or a relative answered for them; then the grown men were baptized, and lastly the women.

e. Tertullian argues c.200 that the baptism of little children, except in cases of emergency baptisms, lays too great a responsibility on godparents. Thus, he argues for postponement.

f. Many other tombs of small children with symbols of baptism etched into the stone.