

Questions Posed for Study

Question: What happens to children who have not reached the age of accountability when the rapture takes place?

**God's grace.
(II Samuel 12:21 - 23)**

Intro: When I was doing some banking for myself and the church, I was asked by a young married teller about infant baptism. She had married a non-Catholic and their baby had not been baptized as of yet and based on catholic doctrine such babies if they die without being baptized, they go to a place called limbo. There is absolutely no biblical doctrine for this, not even a biblical precedence. So, the question is, 'What happens when a baby dies, or as we become more conscious of the possibility of the rapture, what happens to those who have not reached the age of accountability.'

I. The biblical state of affairs for infants and eternity – II Samuel 12:21 – 23.

- A. The biblical record here in II Samuel 12 deals with the sin of _____ between King David and Bethsheba in which Bethsheba gets pregnant.
1. Under the Levitical law both should have been received the _____ penalty.
 2. God _____ sets aside the penalty – **II Samuel 12:12 – 13.**
 3. However, there is still _____ – **II Samuel 12:14.**
 4. The baby is not being _____, rather being spared undue ridicule as an illegitimate child. One can image the horrendous life the child would have as they grew-up.
 5. Therefore, I believe for the child's sake God was _____.
 6. When we _____ to sin, knowingly so, it gives the enemies of God and the Gospel occasion to blaspheme God all the more.
 - a. This would give the wicked & vain people cause to speak ____ of God & His law.
 - b. David's reputation as a servant of God would now be _____.
 - c. "This man, who wrote psalms & hymns and seemed so devout, look at him now!"
 - d. "What _____ comes from something that is unable to restrain one from sin?"
 7. While we may not be able to understand it altogether, God sees all events

_____ than we do in that He is able to see how events will play out in real time and the future. God is sovereign and while He can do as He pleases, He will never violate any aspect of His character in the process.

8. David took this very hard as we he fasted for the child's _____ that perhaps God would spare the child. **(II Samuel 12:16 & 17)**

a. The child dies and considering this, heaven was the best place for the child as one could only image how the child would have been treated otherwise.

b. David ceases his fast and _____ himself for what lies ahead.

II Samuel 12:19 – 20.

e. Notice David's response to his servant's question – **II Samuel 12:21 – 23.**

B. I do not believe there is any difference to any child who dies before they reach the age of accountability, or has an understanding of sin and the _____ to be saved from sin.

1. Water baptism never saves anyone as it does not contain the _____ to do so.

2. Water baptism is an event in a believer's life that takes place _____ one has come to a saving faith in Christ, which no infants or toddlers are capable of understanding.

3. The baptizing of babies is directly related to a _____ to understand baptism as the Bible reveals the timing and the purpose of baptism.

a. There was the baptisms of John the Baptist in the river Jordan. **John 3:5 & 6.**

b. The Ethiopian eunuch – **Acts 8:26 – 39.**

(1). Let's notice first the Gospel is presented – **Acts 8:35.**

(2). The Eunuch's question – **Acts 8:36.**

(3). The question of **Acts 8:37a.**

(4). The response of the eunuch – **Acts 8:37b.**

(5). They down and the Eunuch was immersed – **Acts 8:38 & 39.**

4. Baptism is one's _____ of having come to a saving faith in Christ, the efficacy of salvation is in the person of Christ and His redemptive work on the cross.

(Colossian 1:20 & 2:14; Revelation 1:5)

C. So, what ever period of time, past, present, or future, be it the tribulation, God's grace will be sufficient for those babies (aborted babies too) to spend eternity with Christ.