

# Belgic Confession of Faith (1561)

## *Article XXXIV*

### **Holy Baptism (Part 4)**

**Leader:** Therefore we detest the error of the Anabaptists, who are not content with the one only baptism they have once received, and moreover condemn the baptism of the infants of believers, who we believe ought to be baptized and sealed with the sign of the covenant, as the children in Israel formerly were circumcised upon the same promises which are made unto our children.<sup>1</sup>

*People:* **And indeed Christ shed His blood no less for the washing of the children of believers than for adult persons;<sup>2</sup> and therefore they ought to receive the sign and sacrament of that which Christ has done for them; as the Lord commanded in the law that they should be made partakers of the sacrament of Christ's suffering and death shortly after they were born,<sup>3</sup> by offering for them a lamb, which was a sacrament of Jesus Christ. Moreover, what circumcision was to the Jews, baptism is to our children. And for this reason St. Paul calls baptism *the circumcision of Christ.*<sup>4</sup>**

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<sup>1</sup> Genesis 17:1-14; Acts 2:39, 16:15, 33; Matt. 19:14; 1 Cor.7:14

<sup>2</sup> Acts 2:39; Col.2:11-12

<sup>3</sup> Lev. 12:6; John 1:29

<sup>4</sup> Col. 2:11