

The Heidelberg Catechism

74. Are infants also to be baptized?

Yes, for since they, as well as their parents, belong to the covenant and people of God,¹ and through the blood of Christ² both redemption from sin and the Holy Spirit, who works faith, are promised to them no less than to their parents,³ they are also by Baptism, as a sign of the covenant, to be ingrafted into the Christian Church, and distinguished from the children of unbelievers,⁴ as was done in the Old Testament by circumcision,⁵ in place of which in the New Testament Baptism is appointed.⁶

¹ Gen 17:7; ² Mt 19:14; ³ Ps 22:10; Isa 44:1-3; Lk 1:14-15; Acts 2:38-39, 16:31; ⁴ Acts 10:47; 1 Cor 7:14; ⁵ Gen 17:9-14; ⁶ Col 2:11-13