

Heaven and Hell, Present and Future: Destinations beyond the Grave

Sermon 8: Death in Infancy or Incompetency

Confessional Introduction (2LCF 10.2-3)

I. Biblical Factors to Consider

a. Guilt Imputed from Adam

Romans 5:12–19; 1 Corinthians 15:21–22

b. Sinful Corruption from Conception

Psalm 51:5; 58:3

c. Relative Innocence of Some

Deuteronomy 1:39; Isaiah 7:14–16; 8:4; Romans 9:10–12

d. The Emphasis on Condemnation by Individual Deeds

John 5:28–29; 2 Corinthians 5:10–11a; Revelation 20:12–13

e. The Nature of Regeneration and Faith as Supernatural Gifts from God

John 1:12–13; 3:5–8; Ephesians 2:1–10

f. Possible Cases of Infant Regeneration

2 Samuel 12:13–23; 18:33; Luke 1:15, 41–44

g. Biblical Silence on Some Questions

Deuteronomy 29:29

II. A Biblical Conclusion on Infant Salvation

Though *relatively* innocent, infants are born with Adam's imputed guilt and inherited corruption; if they are to inherit eternal life, God must set His special love on them, apply Christ's atonement to them, and give them the new life of regeneration. It is in this way that Scripture gives us possible hope for deceased infants and others who die while incapable of receiving his effectual call through the normal means of grace (the outward call of the gospel).