

## **Infant Baptism in Sacred Scripture and the Church Fathers**

**Acts 2:38-39:** And Peter said to them, "Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is to you and to your children..."

**Colossians 2:11-12:** In him also you were circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of flesh in the circumcision of Christ; and you were buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith in the working of God, who raised him from the dead.

**Act 16:15:** And when she was baptized, with her household, she besought us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come to my house and stay."

**Act 16:33:** And he [Paul] took them the same hour of the night, and washed their wounds, and he was baptized at once, with all his family.

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**Irenaeus of Lyons (c. 180 A.D.):** For he came to save all by means of himself -- all, I say, who by him are born again to God -- infants, children, adolescents, young men, and old men. (Against Heresies II.22.4)

**Hippolytus (190-220 A.D.):** And they shall baptize the little children first. And if they can answer for themselves, let them answer. But if they cannot, let their parents answer or someone from their family. And next they shall baptism the grown men; and last the women. (Apostolic Tradition 21.3-5)

**Origen (190-210 A.D.):** I take this occasion to discuss something which our brothers often inquire about. Infants are baptized for the remission of sins. Of what kinds? Or when did they sin? But since "No one is exempt from

stain," one removes the stain by the mystery of baptism. For this reason infants are baptized. For "Unless one is born of water and the Spirit he cannot enter the kingdom of heaven." (Homily on Luke 14:5).

## **Baptism by Blood in Sacred Scripture and the Church Fathers**

### **Tertullian (910-205 A.D.) Chapter 16. Of the Second Baptism— With Blood**

We *have* indeed, likewise, a *second* font, (itself withal *one with the former*,) of *blood*, to wit; concerning which the Lord said, "I have to be baptized with a baptism," when He had been baptized already. For He had come "by means of water and blood," 1 John 5:6\* just as John has written; that He might be baptized by the water, glorified by the blood; to make *us*, in like manner, *called by water, chosen by blood*. These two baptisms He sent out from the wound in His pierced side, in order that they who believed in His blood might be bathed with the water; they who had been bathed in the water might likewise drink the blood. This is the baptism which both stands in lieu of the fontal bathing when that has not been received, and restores it when lost.

\*1 John 5:6 - This is he who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood.