

We also learned from the Bible that **David had hope that he would see his dead son again—“But now he is dead; why should I fast? Can I bring him back again? I shall go to him, but he shall not return to me.” 2 Samuel 2:23.** David's resignation to his child's death is evident in this verse. David was a righteous and godly man in spite of a great lapse into sin which resulted in adultery, murder, and the death of the babe conceived in wickedness. David had a knowledge of God and His nature and so was resigned to God's judgements. It may be that David's peaceful resignation was based on a hope that his child was regenerated (born spiritually) before his death. "I shall go to him" may mean that David hoped to see his child again in God's presence as David knew himself to be a child of God and would be with God upon his departure from this world.

In Matthew's gospel Christ sets a babe in the midst of the disciples and tells them: **“Therefore whoever humbles himself as this little child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven” (18:4).** Christ likens those who enter the kingdom of heaven to the babe. Christ tells us here that a childlike humility is a characteristic of people who have trusted Him. He warns of the sin of causing His little ones to stumble by enticements to sin and He tells us not to despise humble believers like this babe.

He tells us that He came to save these little ones and that the Father has willed that not one will perish.

In **Luke 1:11-17** the angel of the Lord tells Zacharias that Elizabeth will bear a son and that he will be filled with the Holy Spirit even from his mother's womb. This means that John was regenerated (spiritually born) while yet in his mother's womb and prior to his physical birth.

Also, Jesus says in **Matthew 19:14—“Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them, for of such is the kingdom of heaven.”** C. H. Spurgeon, a Christian pastor, comments about this verse: “Jesus tells us that children are admitted into the kingdom; nay, not only that some few are here and there admitted into it, but of such is the kingdom of God: I am not inclined to get away from the plain sense of that expression, nor to merely suggest that He merely means that the kingdom consists of those who are like children. It is clear that He intended such children, as those who were before Him, babes and young children, of such is the kingdom of God’.

“Gentle Jesus, meek and mild,

Look on me, a little child!

Pity my simplicity,

Suffer me to come to Thee.”

John Calvin, a Christian teacher wrote: “Truly, Christ was sanctified” (set apart to God) “from earliest infancy in order that He might sanctify in Himself His elect” (chosen ones) “from every age without distinction. If we have in Christ the most perfect example of all the graces which God bestows upon His children, in this respect also He will be for us a proof that age of infancy is not utterly averse to sanctification.”

George Whitefield was a great Christian preacher who in the 1700's said: “What an awful proof are the sufferings, that children come into a world with a corruption that renders them liable to God's wrath and damnation: but the blood, the precious blood of Jesus Christ, it is to be hoped, cleanses them from guilt and filth of sin. So that any of you who have got children dead in infancy, O may you improve what I shall say by and by from the next, and pray endeavor to go to that place where I hope you will see your children making a blessed constellation in the firmament of heaven: in this respect all go to the same place, some at beginning of life, some at middle, and some at decline, and happy, happy they who go to bed soonest if their souls are saved.”

Pastor John MacArthur offers helpful comment here—“The kingdom of heaven is the sphere of God's rule in Christ through gracious salvation. For those who have reached the age when personal saving faith can be exercised, the kingdom is entered only by a divinely illuminated understanding of what it means to trust Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. The implication of such as these is that for those, who because of young age or mental deficiency, are incapable of exercising saving faith, God grants them in the event of death entrance into the kingdom by the sovereign operations of His grace. When children die before they reach the age of decision, they go into the presence of Jesus Christ, because they are under the special protection of the sovereign King.”

We must mention now that abortion or intentional murder of the unborn is a sin that God forgives. But He gives us stark warning in 1 John 3:15 that the unrepentant murderer is lost—“Whoever hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him.”

If you have taken part in this sin, repent and find His sufficient grace and forgiveness of sins. Christ receives everyone who truly believes and repents. Remember that the murderer David was forgiven, but the murderer Athaliah who sought the babe Joash's life never repented and so she was lost.

In light of Christ's love and sacrifice of Himself for sinners, come to Christ trusting Him in repentance that He will save you from your sins, dear one. And you shall be saved.

The Bible tells us about God's nature—**He is a helper to the helpless.** “But You have seen, for You observe trouble and grief, To repay it by your hand. The helpless commits himself to You.” Psalm 10:14. **God is merciful to the afflicted.** “So that they caused the cry of the poor to come to him; For He hears the cry of the afflicted.” Job 34:28. **God is compassionate.** “So rend your heart, and not your garments; Return to the Lord your God, For He is gracious and merciful, Slow to anger, and of great kindness; And He relents from doing harm.” Joel 2:13. **God is just.** “If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.” 1 John 1:9.

Pastor Ichabod Spencer from the 1800's relates the story of a Christian woman whose babe had died and of her hope of the babe's salvation.

The Lost Child—not lost, but gone before

‘Twas a gem fit for love,—’twas the gift of her God,
But no thanks did the gift ever excite;
Death snatched it away—she sunk under the rod!
All her world was a chaos of night!
Then there whispered a voice from the land of the blest,
Oh my mother, my mother! on high
I wait to receive thee to this land of sweet rest
Oh, my mother, prepare thee to die.
I'm not in the dark coffin—Christ spread his arms around
me,
I awoke 'mid this light and this love,
Where the bright beams of heaven spread their glory
around me:
For I died to allure thee above.
She heard it; she felt that attraction of heaven,—
It was peace: she can now kiss the rod!
She flew to her Christ—she's a sinner forgiven,—
They shall all meet in the bosom of God.”

Praise the Lord!!!