

Parental faith in the last half of that promise binds God's faithfulness to engraft the whole household into Christ, giving that whole household a right to all the benefits of the covenant of grace, and the making of them willing in the day of His power to yield themselves wholly over to be the Lord's. Is not baptism, which signifies and seals these three things, appropriate in the case of such a household, and does it not mean for the household exactly what it meant for the individual?

If the ordinance is administered in either case without faith taking hold of God's faithfulness, it is merely a form.

A parent so laying hold upon God's promise for his house has the same right to count the Divine faithfulness pledged to engraft that whole house into Christ that he has to count himself engrafted into Christ. The only difference is this: His faith for himself engrafts him instantaneously, whereas his faith for his household may still leave the matter of time in God's hand. He may be kept waiting for the fulfilment of the promise as "those that watch for