## "Do Babies Go to Heaven?"

## Do babies and small children go to heaven?

We have lengthy answers to this question <a href="here">here</a> and <a href=here</a>, but <a href="here">Shane Pruitt</a> provided an especially insightful, excellent answer to this question on <a href="here">X (Twitter)</a>:

At 12:50 AM on a Tuesday morning, our ten-year-old son with unique needs went to be Jesus.

So, a statement like this begs the question, "Am I just wishing this to be true, or do I Biblically know this to be true?"

Meaning, is there support in Scripture that God welcomes babies (born and unborn), young children, and those with unique mental needs (meaning they may be older, but have the mind of a child) immediately into Heaven?

I absolutely believe the Bible answers this. Here are Biblical reasons why I know this to be true:

God's Knowledge: The Lord knows every child at conception and values them. They are considered a person, known and loved by God, from the very beginning. (Psalm 139:13-16).

God's Declaration: God refers to young children as "innocents". Not that they were perfect or without a sin nature, but they were innocent of the ability to understand the need of repentance and forgiveness. (Jeremiah 19:4).

God's Promise: In Deuteronomy, we find an unbelieving generation of Israelites being prevented from entering the Promised Land, but their children were exempt from that penalty and were able to enter (Deuteronomy 1:39).

God's Possession: He considers all babies to be His. God condemns Israel in Ezekiel 16:21, of the wretched act of child

sacrifice. "You slaughtered My children and offered them up to idols by causing them to pass through the fire."

God's Compassion: He has compassion on all little ones and infants, and is not willing that even one of them should perish (Matthew 18:14). His grace covers them, until they realize their need of a Savior.

God's Illustration: He used a child to illustrate what one must become like to enter His Kingdom (Matthew 18:1 -5). If infants and children would end up in Hell if they died young, He most likely wouldn't use them as an illustration of how to enter the Kingdom.

God's Compliment: He said children were the greatest in His Kingdom (Matthew 18:4).

God's Blessing: Jesus blessed the little children and said the Kingdom of God belongs to them (Mark 9:13 - 16). Jesus typically didn't bless those destined to Hell or promise them the Kingdom, unless He meant it.

David's Assurance: David knew that he would be in heaven forever after death (Ps 23:6). He also had the assurance that his baby (that had died) would be there as well, where they would be reunited. "... I will go to him, but he will not return to me (2 Samuel 12:22 - 23)."

God's Presence: I do not believe in a "soul sleep". When babies, young children, and those with unique needs die; they are with the Lord immediately (2 Corinthians 5:8, Luke 23:43).

God is not silent on this topic. Scripture speaks.

Therefore, you can know with absolute confidence that you did not "lose" your baby, child, or loved one with unique needs. You didn't lose them, because you know exactly where they are. They are perfectly and fully alive with Jesus.