- (c) Testament heart circumcision is accomplished when an individual is spiritually baptized into union with Christ. These two figures of speech refer to the same spiritual reality, i.e., the initial subjective application of salvation.
- (d) The term "heart circumcision" as used in the Old Testament is a figure of speech for the same spiritual reality as is represented by the term "heart circumcision" as used in the New Testament.
- (e) Thus Old Testament external circumcision and New Testament external baptism were intended to signify and seal the same spiritual reality.
- (f) Thus New Testament ritual baptism, as a sign and seal of the Covenant of Grace, has superceded Old Testament ritual circumcision.
- (g) Under the Old Testament dispensation both adults and children were circumcised. Then under the New Testament dispensation should not both adults and children be baptized?
- (2) Second argument: Where in Scripture is there evidence to the effect that the infant children of believers under the New Testament dispensation were <u>excluded</u> from the Abrahamic Covenant of Promise?
  - (a) The covenant which God imposed upon Abraham was a grace covenant
    - Romans 4:13, 16 -- "For the promise to Abraham or to his descendants that he would be heir of the world was not through the Law, but through the righteousness of faith . . . . For this reason it is by faith, that it might be in accordance with grace, in order that the promise may be certain to all descendants, not only to those who are of the Law, but also to those who are of the faith of Abraham, who is the faith of us all."
  - (b) This covenant was an everlasting covenant
    - Genesis 17:7 -- "And I will establish My covenant between He and you and your descendants after you throughout their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your descendants after you."
    - Galatians 3:29 -- "And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed, heirs according to promise."
  - (c) This covenant was primarily a spiritual covenant
    - Galatians 3:7, 16, 29 -- "Therefore, be sure that it is those who are of faith that are sons of Abraham . . . . Now the promises were spoken to Abraham and to his seed. He does not say, 'And to seeds,' as referring to many, but rather to one, 'And to your seed,' that is, Christ . . . . And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed, heirs according to promise."