

*How are infants and children impacted by sin?*

*When and how are children considered members of the church?*



*five views on*

# Infants & Children **IN THE CHURCH**

*How does God treat people who die in their infancy or childhood?*

*When and how are children instructed in Christian doctrine?*



**April 27, 2015**

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary will host a free conference titled *Five Views on Infants and Children in the Church in HSC 219*. It will be comprised of paper presentations co-sponsored by the NOBTS Baptist Center for Theology and Ministry and the Christian Education Division.

## SCHEDULE

- 8:30 Refreshments
- 8:55 Introductions – Dr. Harwood
- 9:00 Presentation of Eastern Orthodox view, Q&A
- 10:00 Presentation of Roman Catholic view, Q&A
- 11:00 Presentation of Lutheran view, Q&A
- 12:00 Lunch
- 1:00 Presentation of Presbyterian view, Q&A
- 2:00 Presentation of Baptist view, Q&A
- 3:00 Panel Discussion
- 4:00 Presentation on Children's Ideas of Jesus
- 5:00 Conclude

For more information, please contact Dr. Adam Harwood at [aharwood@nobts.edu](mailto:aharwood@nobts.edu).

**Adam Harwood** (Ph.D., Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary) - Co-editor of the book project and advocate for the Baptist view. He is Associate Professor of Theology, Director of the Baptist Center for Theology and Ministry, and Editor of the *Journal for Baptist Theology and Ministry* at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. He is the author of *The Spiritual Condition of Infants: A Biblical-Historical Survey and Systematic Proposal* (Wipf & Stock, 2011).

**Kevin E. Lawson** (Ed.D., University of Maine) - Co-editor of the book project. He is Director of the Ph.D. and Ed.D. Programs in Educational Studies, Editor of the *Christian Education Journal*, and Professor of Christian Education at Biola University's Talbot School of Theology in La Mirada, California. He served as a board member of The Society for Children's Spirituality: Christian Perspectives (2001-12). Among other books, he edited *Understanding Children's Spirituality: Theology, Research, and Practice* (Wipf & Stock, 2012).

**David Liberto** (Ph.D., Marquette University) - Advocate for the Roman Catholic view. He is Professor of Historical and Dogmatic Theology at Notre Dame Seminary and Graduate School of Theology in New Orleans, Louisiana. He has published several articles in academic, peer-reviewed publications and is currently working on a book-length treatment of the psychological analogy of the Trinity.

**David Scaer** (Th.D., Concordia Seminary) - Advocate for the Lutheran view. He is Professor of Systematic Theology and New Testament and Editor of *Concordia Theological Quarterly* at Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne, Indiana. Among other works, he is the author of *Infant Baptism in Nineteenth Century Lutheran Theology* (Concordia, 2011) and contributed to *Understanding Four Views on the Lord's Supper* (Zondervan, 2007).

**Jason Foster** (Ph.D., Durham University) - Advocate for the Eastern Orthodox view. He is Priest of Holy Nativity of our Lord Orthodox Church in Bossier City, Louisiana. He holds master's degrees from Dallas Theological Seminary, Cranmer Theological House, and Oxford University. His Ph.D. dissertation is titled "Sursum Corda: Ritual and Meaning of the Liturgical Command in the First Five Centuries of the Church."

**Gregg Strawbridge** (Ph.D., University of Southern Mississippi) - Advocate for the Presbyterian view. He is Pastor of All Saints Presbyterian in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, and is the Founder and Creative Director of [www.WordMp3.com](http://www.WordMp3.com), an online audio library of Christian worldview resources. He edited and contributed to *The Case for Covenantal Infant Baptism* (P&R, 2003).

**Donna Peavey** (Ph.D., New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary) - Presentation on children's ideas of Jesus. She is Professor of Christian Education at NOBTS. Her 2003 Ph.D. dissertation addresses the influences of self-image upon children's images of Jesus. She speaks frequently at training events for Christian educators on the topics of age-appropriate ministry to children.