

“THE BIBLE STANDS AS IT WRAPS US WITH THE TRUTH”

LUKE 2:7, 12

The Gospels were not intended to furnish us with a detailed biography of our Lord’s life, nor even the materials for it; but it had this two fold objective: **John 20:31** *but these have been written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing you may have life in His name.*

Swaddling clothes were used as a method of transition from a very tiny world of nine months confinement to suddenly a rather large, spacious world. The wraps comfort and help to induce sleep in the infants. The cloths make the infant feel safe and secure from itself as well as outsiders.

I. The eternal Word (eternal Son of God) was washed with water, rubbed with salt and wrapped in swaddling clothes by His mother immediately following His birth. He was swaddled to protect Himself from scratching His divine face and He was swaddled to protect Himself from potential injuries that surrounded Him.

A. He was filled with the Spirit without measure to protect Himself from all of the foes He would encounter. **John 3:34** “For He whom God has sent speaks the words of God; for He gives the Spirit without measure.”

1. **John 5:19** *Jesus therefore answered and was saying to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of Himself, unless it is something He sees the Father doing; for whatever the Father does, these things the Son also does in like manner.*
2. **John 12:49-50** *"For I did not speak on My own initiative, but the Father Himself who sent Me has given Me commandment, what to say, and what to speak. (50) "And I know that His commandment is eternal life; therefore the things I speak, I speak just as the Father has told Me."*
3. **John 7:16** *Jesus therefore answered them, and said, "My teaching is not Mine, but His who sent Me.*
4. **John 8:28** *Jesus therefore said, "When you lift up the Son of Man, then you will know that I am He, and I do nothing on My own initiative, but I speak these things as the Father taught Me.*
5. **John 14:10** *"Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father is in Me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on My own initiative, but the Father abiding in Me does His works.*

B. He sent His disciples forth just as the Father had sent Him, equipped and wrapped in the word.

1. **John 17:8** *for the words which Thou gavest Me I have given to them; and they received them, and truly understood that I came forth from Thee, and they believed that Thou didst send Me.*
2. **John 17:18** *"As Thou didst send Me into the world, I also have sent them into the world.*
3. **John 20:21-23** *Jesus therefore said to them again, "Peace be with you; as the Father has sent Me, I also send you." (22) And when He had said this, He breathed on them, and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. (23) "If you forgive the sins of any, their sins have been forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they have been retained." (The word of redemption)*

C. Even after He sent them out on their own, He gave them yet another Helper to protect them.

1. **John 14:16-18** *"And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may be with you forever; (17) that is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it*

does not behold Him or know Him, but you know Him because He abides with you, and will be in you. (18) "I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you.

2. **John 14:26** *"But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I said to you.*
3. **John 16:7-11** *"But I tell you the truth, it is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper shall not come to you; but if I go, I will send Him to you. (8) "And He, when He comes, will convict the world concerning sin, and righteousness, and judgment; (9) concerning sin, because they do not believe in Me; (10) and concerning righteousness, because I go to the Father, and you no longer behold Me; (11) and concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world has been judged. They will have Divine, inspired, infallible help in order to protect them from error incurred within and contradictions from without.*
 - a. A few examples of the Divine help of protection are as follows:
 - (1) Acts 4:1-22; Acts 5:3, 9; 5:17ff;

D. The apostles, in turn, extended the Spirit and the protection of the word to the disciples.

1. **Act 5:32** *"And we are witnesses of these things; and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey Him."*
2. **1 Cor 15:1** *Now I make known to you, brethren, the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received, in which also you stand,*
3. Acts 6:5 -- Steven
4. Acts 15 -- The Council at Jerusalem.

E. And the disciples extended the Spirit and the word to the entire region.

1. **Acts 8:1** *And Saul was in hearty agreement with putting him to death. And on that day a great persecution arose against the church in Jerusalem; and they were all scattered throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria, except the apostles.*