

42-02-14-The Needy Newborn Christ

Christmas, Advent, vulnerability, newborn, dependence, trust

Luke 2:4-7

We learn from Jesus the *dependent trust* He Himself learned.

### **INTRODUCTION:**

– For *comfort* and *safety*, Nazareth was a better birthplace for Jesus than Bethlehem, but Rome decreed a taxation census *in people's hometowns* –Luke 2:4-7, So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.  
–Some parents say, “Do as I say, not as I do!” God became one of us to tell us, “Follow Me.” **HOM.idea.** As a helpless, dependent newborn...

### **I. God the Son entrusted His infant vulnerability to Joseph's care**

- A. For finding a shelter when “there was no room for them in the inn.”
- B. For providing security (from both *foreign* and *national* dangers).

### **II. God the Son entrusted His infant needs to Mary's care**

- A. She was a mother *with no experience*, probably a *teenager*, BUT
- B. wisely “wrapped him in cloths” & *resourcefully* “placed him in a manger.”

### **III. We learn from Jesus the *dependent trust* He Himself learned.**

- A. On leaving Heaven, He put a faithful young couple over His care.
- B. As He grew up, He transferred that *dependent trust* to His Father.

### **CONCLUSION:**

–Not all see their need of *following Jesus*. [A student once told me, “Christ is just a crutch.” I replied, “Who's not crippled?” Years later, he choked on food in a cafeteria where no one helped him. I can only hope he didn't die without trusting Him Who exemplified *dependent trust* in His Advent as the newborn babe of Bethlehem.]  
–*He came down to pull the helpless up*. [Nurses pull pts up in bed by having them bend their knees and plant their heels firmly; the nurse does the work. If *they* push, their feet slip and the procedure fails.] (Prayer's like a call-light for Jesus to come help, when we're sliding downward. He says, “Plant your trust firmly in Me, and I'll pull you up.” On our own, we slide farther down.)  
–*We never outgrow our need for Jesus to come help us*. [Lost sheep, once found, remain sheep, always needing *dependent trust* on the Lord as their Shepherd.]