



In his home, when the boy Jesus saw Joseph with a special shawl over his head and shoulders - then Jesus knew that Joseph was praying.

When Jesus went to the synagogue to hear God's Word, He saw that each man who came had a shawl like this on his arm. When the man sat down, he put the shawl over his head and shoulders.

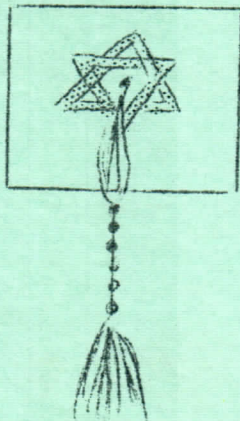
Jesus had a shawl like this too. It is called a Prayer Shawl or a Tallith.

This shawl is about 6 feet square. It is made of fine cotton or wool. There are wide, black stripes on the ends of the shawl. But the most important part were the tassels. The tassels had to have 8 threads and 5 knots. There were tassels at the corners. Sometimes there was a fringe all across the ends of the prayer shawl.

TURN CARD OVER



Often these shawls were decorated with the special star like the one on the flag of Israel. The special tassel might be fastened in the center of this star like this.



Even today those Jewish people who follow the rules of the church closely, wear prayer shawls.