

The Priest's Garments

Exodus 28:1-4

28 "Now take Aaron your brother, and his sons with him, from among the children of Israel, that he may minister to Me as priest, Aaron and Aaron's sons: Nadab, Abihu, Eleazar, and Ithamar.
2 And you shall make holy garments for Aaron your brother, for glory and for beauty. 3 So you shall speak to all who are gifted artisans, whom I have filled with the spirit of wisdom, that they may make Aaron's garments, to consecrate him, that he may minister to Me as priest. 4 And these are the garments which they shall make: a breastplate, an ephod, a robe, a skillfully woven tunic, a turban, and a sash. So they shall make holy garments for Aaron your brother and his sons, that he may minister to Me as priest.

It seems that God gets off track here. He has not yet given us all the articles of the tabernacle and yet He begins to talk about the High Priest and his family and his clothes.

Do you know why?

Last week we spoke of the altar and yet there are two other articles of the tabernacle yet to be named and described. They are the laver and the altar of incense.

But why now does God stop to describe the priests clothing?

And what are all these bazaar clothes with the stones and the gold and the colors of the tabernacle woven into them?

- I. So they shall make holy garments for Aaron your brother and his sons, that he may minister to Me as priest.
 - A. Not Moses and his children were to become the priests.
 - B. But Aaron.
 1. The same Aaron who would betray God and build the golden calf.
 2. The same Aaron who along with his sister Miriam, would rebel against Moses as the leader of the congregation.
 3. This speaks of grace.
 4. For although Aaron's name means high, it was not his natural calling but a heavenly calling.
 - a. "Aaron" means "very high." He stood supreme as the high priest, exalted not only above his own house, but also above all the people. Thus was he a type of the Lord Jesus, whom God has exalted with His right hand to be a Priest and a Savior
 - C. So God determines the priesthood.
 1. It is not of Moses' calling or appointment by the elders.

2. Only the descendants of Aaron are to be the priests for the children of Israel forever.
3. Later the people would rebel against God and want to replace Aaron but God would give them a challenge. How does that turn out?
4. Numbers 17:8 ¶ Now it came to pass on the next day that Moses went into the tabernacle of witness, and behold, the rod of Aaron, of the house of Levi, had sprouted and put forth buds, had produced blossoms and yielded ripe almonds.

II. Why do they need a Priest.

- A. This once again spoke of the sin that separated man from God.
 1. Even the holy people of God could not approach God directly.
 2. Even with a sacrifice they must have a priest to minister the sacrifice.
- B. Jesus would fulfill this place when He becomes the great High Priest.
 1. Heb 4:14 Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession.

III. The clothes of the Priest

- A. The breastplate
- B. The ephod
- C. The robe
- D. The skillfully woven tunic
- E. The turban with a golden plate sometimes called a crown
 1. Said Holiness to the Lord.
- F. The sash.