

TODAY'S MESSAGE

Exodus 28:1-43 The Priestly Garments Pt 1

YeHoVaH gave Moses the pattern of the Tabernacle and its dimensions after informing Moses what items would be needed to complete the task. Before completing the list of all of the items that would go into the Tabernacle, YeHoVaH transitions to the items the Priests would need to wear in order to carry out their services unto YeHoVaH in the Tabernacle.

These garments were to be worn while the High Priest and Priests were serving in the Tabernacle unto YeHoVaH and while carrying out their duties among the Israelites. YeHoVaH gave Moses an elaborate set of intricate garment designs for Aaron the High Priest and the sons of Aaron who would serve with him as Priests. Skilled craftsmen would be designated to create the priestly garments that would bring dignity and honor to those who would serve in the priestly roles.

In this portion of Exodus, we will discuss the instructions given to Moses for the priestly garments, their parts, and purposes.

Ex 28:1 And take thou unto thee Aaron thy brother, and his sons with him, from among the children of Israel, that he may minister unto me in the priest's office, *even* Aaron, Nadab and Abihu, Eleazar and Ithamar, Aaron's sons.

Aaron and his 4 sons, Nadab, Abihu, Eleazar, and Ithamar, were the first priests serving in the Tabernacle with Aaron as the High Priest.

Ex 28:2 And thou shalt make holy garments for Aaron thy brother for glory and for beauty.

The priests' garments displayed honor, glory, splendor, riches, dignity, reverence...

Glory – 03519 אָבוֹד {kaw-bode'} rarely קָבוֹד {kaw-bode'}

Meaning: 1) glory, honour, glorious, abundance 1a) abundance, riches 1b) honour, splendour, glory 1c) honour, dignity 1d) honour, reputation 1e) honour, reverence, glory 1f) glory

Usage: AV - glory 156, honour 32, glorious 10, gloriously 1, honourable 1; 200

This glory was for both the person wearing the garment and for the person that saw it on the person wearing the garment.

The wearer was to wear it with dignity and honor and the person who saw the garment worn should honor the one wearing it with dignity, honor, and reverence.

Beauty – 08597 תִּפְאָרָה {tif-aw-raw'} or תִּפְאֶרֶת {tif-eh'-reth}

Meaning: 1) beauty, splendour, glory 1a) beauty, finery (of garments, jewels) 1b) glory 1b1) of rank, renown 1b2) as attribute of God 1c) honour (or nation Israel) 1d) glorying, boasting (of individual)

Usage: AV - glory 22, beauty 10, beautiful 6, honour 4, fair 3, glorious 3, bravery 1, comely 1, excellent 1; 51

The priestly garments were also garments of rank.

The High Priest's garment (Aaron) was of a higher rank than the priests' (Aaron sons) garments.

Ex 28:3 And thou shalt speak unto all *that are wisehearted (skill minded)*, whom I have filled with the spirit of wisdom, that they may make Aaron's garments to consecrate him, that he may minister unto me in the priest's office.

The wise-hearted men had been endowed by YeHoVaH with the skills they have mastered and given the wisdom of YeHoVaH to make the items YeHoVaH gave Moses the instructions to make.

Moses did not have to know everything or do everything. YeHoVaH had placed in Moses' midst those whom He had filled with His spirit of wisdom.

In Exodus 31, YeHoVaH reveals who these men are that He has chosen.

Ex 31:2 See, I have called by name **Bezaleel** the son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah:

Ex 31:3 And I have filled him with the spirit of God, in wisdom, and in understanding, and in knowledge, and in all manner of workmanship,

Ex 31:4 To devise cunning works, to work in gold, and in silver, and in brass,

Ex 31:5 And in cutting of stones, to set *them*, and in carving of timber, to work in all manner of workmanship.

Ex 31:6 And I, behold, I have given with him **Aholiab**, the son of Ahisamach, of the tribe of Dan: and in the hearts of all that are wisehearted I have put wisdom, that they may make all that I have commanded thee;

Ex 28:4 And these *are* the garments which they shall make; a breastplate, and an ephod, and a robe, and a broidered coat, a mitre, and a girdle: and they shall make **holy garments** for Aaron thy brother, and his sons, that he may minister unto me in the priest's office.

The variety of visual images of what these garments looked like shows a difference in how these instructions have been interpreted down through the years. This makes it difficult to arrive at an exact replica of the priestly garments.

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The garments were holy because of the holy service that was to be performed in them.

Ex 28:5 And they shall take gold, and blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine linen.

Ex 28:6 And they shall make the ephod *of* gold, *of* blue, and *of* purple, *of* scarlet, and fine twined linen, with cunning work.

Ex 28:7 It shall have the two shoulderpieces thereof joined at the two edges thereof; and so it shall be joined together.

Ex 28:8 And the curious girdle of the ephod, which *is* upon it, shall be of the same, according to the work thereof; *even of* gold, *of* blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine twined linen.

Ex 28:9 And thou shalt take two onyx stones, and grave on them the names of the **children** of Israel:

Children in this passage is not speaking of all Israelites but specifically the sons of Israel.

Children – 01121 בן **ben** {bane} **Meaning:** 1) son, grandson, *child*, member of a group 1a) son, male child 1b) grandson 1c) children (pl. - male and female) 1d) youth, young men

Usage: AV - son 2978, children 1568, old 135, first 51, man 20, young 18, young + 01241 17, child 10, stranger 10, people 5, misc 92; 4906

Ex 28:10 **Six** of their names on one stone, and *the other* **six** names of the rest on the other stone, according to their birth.

The verse indicates 12 names that would be engraved on the two stones.

Israel had 12 sons from his 2 wives and 2 handmaidens, Bilhah and Zilpah.

Ben is translated and used as – son 2978, children 1568, old 135, first 51, man 20, young 18, young + 01241 17, child 10, stranger 10, people 5, misc 92; 4906

Sons of Israel is most appropriate in this passage because Israel had a total of 15 children;

14 sons including Ephraim and Manasseh; and 1 daughter Dinah.

The list has 12 names

Ge 35:22 ...Now the sons of Jacob were twelve:

The Sons of Leah

- Reuben
- Simeon
- Levi
- Judah
- Issachar
- Zebulun

Sons of Bilhah, Rachel's handmaid

- Dan
- Naphtali

Sons of Zilpah, Leah's handmaid

- Gad
- Asher

The Sons of Rachel

- Joseph
- Benjamin

2 sons from Joseph and his Egyptian wife, Asenath, named Ephraim and Manasseh, most likely would not have been included in this list of 12.

Ex 28:11 With the work of an engraver in stone, *like* the engravings of a signet, shalt thou engrave the two stones with the names of the children of Israel: thou shalt make them to be set in ouches of gold.

The engraver in stone, like everyone else that worked on the items that YeHoVaH gave instructions to Moses to make, was filled with the spirit of wisdom.

Ex 28:12 And thou shalt put the two stones upon the shoulders of the ephod *for* stones of memorial unto the children of Israel: and Aaron shall bear their names before the LORD upon his two shoulders for a memorial.

When Aaron went into the Tabernacle, he carried all the names of the sons of Israel into the Tabernacle. Therefore, all of the sons of Israel were represented on Aaron's shoulders.

Ex 28:13 And thou shalt make ouches *of* gold;

Ex 28:14 And two chains *of* pure gold at the ends; *of* wreathen work shalt thou make them, and fasten the wreathen chains to the ouches.