ISRAEL'S PRIESTHOOD—Exodus 28 and 29

Exodus 28—Garments for the Priests

----Aaron, the High Priest 28:2-39

v. 4 Breastplate	Tunic
Ephod	Turban
Robe	Sash

Ephod--:5-14

Breastplate of Judgment--:15-30

Robe--:31-35

Turban--:36-39 (Also called headpiece, mitre, headdress, headcovering, hat)

Tunic--:39

Sash--:39

--Aaron's sons, the "common" priests 28:40-43

Tunics, sashes, hats, linen trousers (NO shoes)

Exodus 29—Consecration of the Priests

Holy Garments for glory and for beauty (Exodus 28:2)

The Ephod 28:5-14 For Beauty :5-8

For Glory :9-14 "You shall put the two stones on the shoulders." (:12)

Reuben	Dan
Simeon	Gad
Levi	Asher
Judah	Naphtali
Zebulun	Joseph
Issachar	Benjamir

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--on 2 stones together, showing unity --on Aaron's shoulders, showing strength

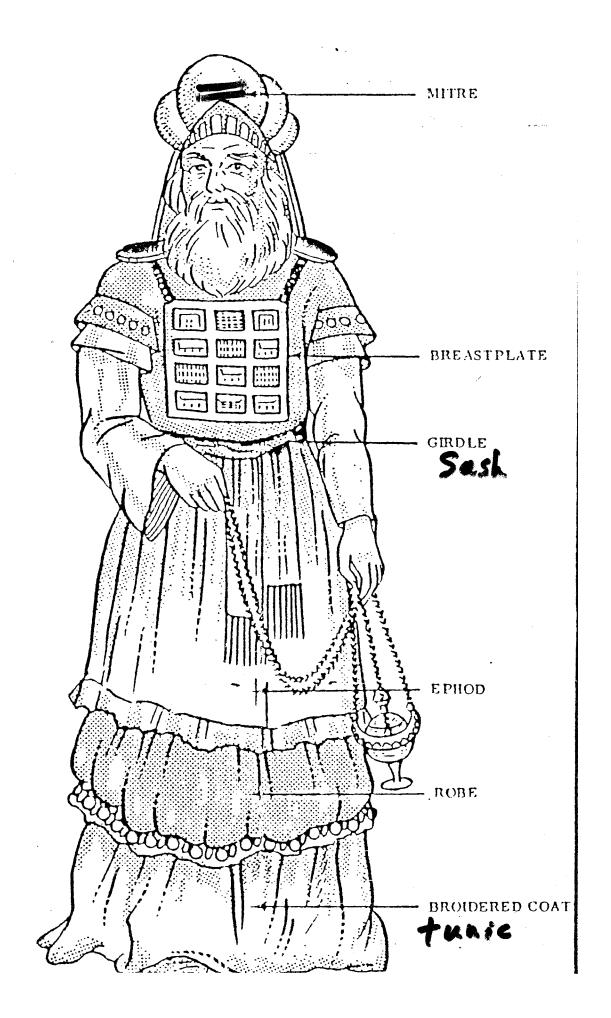
The Breastplate of Judgment 28:15-30 For Beauty :15-20, 22-28

> For Glory :21, 29-30 Breastplate covered the heart.

> > --12 precious stones indicated people precious to God

--borne over the heart showed the love of God for Israel

--12 different stones for different peoples, yet the Lord revealed that they all were precious to Him as such!



Exodus 28:30- - The Urim and the Thummim

Biblical References:

Exodus 28:30 I Sar Leviticus 8:6-9 Numbers 27:18-21 Deuteronomy 33:8-10

I Samuel 28:3-6 Ezra 2:59-63 Nehemiah 7:65

What were the Urim and the Thummim? (some thoughts on the matters)

- 1. A necklace of gems
- 2. 3 antique stones representing 3 answers: affirmative, negative, neutral
- 3. Polished and unpolished diamonds inscribed with the name of the LORD, which the High Priest could cast on a table, thereby deducing God's answer based upon their final positions
- 4. "Revelation" and "Truth," as interpreted by the Septuagint
- 5. "Explanation" and "Decision"
- 6. "Light" and "Right" (Martin Luther)
- 7. "Light" and "Salvation"
- 8. As having opposite meanings, and thus indicating what God would and would not permit
- 9. A message conveyed directly by God to the High Priest, who was wearing the ephod and the breastplate

It appears that what can be stated with certainty was that the Urim and Thummim were a means by which the LORD communicated His will for His people through the High Priest.

Responsibilities of Israel's Priests

<u>In the Holy Place</u> (Exodus 27:21; 30:7-8; Leviticus 24:5-8) --Burn incense on the golden altar, morning and evening

--Clean and trim lamps, and light them every evening

--Place showbread on Table of Showbread every Sabbath

In the Courtyard (Exodus 29:38-44; Leviticus 6:9-13; 9:22) --Keep constant fire burning on the Altar of Burnt Offering

--Clear ashes from the Altar

--Offer morning and evening sacrifices

--Bless the people after the daily sacrifice

<u>In General</u> (Leviticus 27:2ff; Numbers 5; 6:22ff) --Inspect unclean persons, especially lepers, and declare them clean

--Appraise things that were dedicated to the sanctuary

--Carry out judicial responsibilities

Sacred Responsibilities

--Instruct Israelites in the Law of God

--Act as a high court of appeals

--Chaplaincy in war, providing information for battles (discerning the will of God for His people)

CONSECRATION OF THE PRIESTS EXODUS 29

Proper sacrifice—sin and burnt offerings to be given

Water cleansing—ceremonial

Proper clothing

Anointed with oil

Blood to be applied on his account

Burning of fat and a burnt offering both required

Wave offerings to be given

Priest to partake of flesh of one ram

Seven day period of consecration

Proper sanctification of the altar

Continual burnt offerings to be given throughout his tour of duty

Consecration of the Priests—Exodus 29

The consecration of the priest meant entire <u>dedication</u> and <u>devotion</u> to his office.

The offerings emphasized <u>redemption</u> as the basis and well-spring of service.

The washings indicated <u>purity</u> as the necessary preliminary and continuous accompaniment of work for God.

The continual burnt offering meant constant <u>consecration</u>.

The meeting of the believer with God in this continual consecration indicated consequent <u>blessings</u>.

(W.H. Griffith Thomas)

Exodus 29:19--21

The Ram of Consecration- - Applying the Blood

Symbolic Transfer (19)

Death of the Sacrifice (20)

Blood Applied (20)

*On the Right Ear—hearing the Word of God *On the Right Thumb—doing the work of God *On the Right Big Toe—walking in the way of God

The sacrificial blood was also sprinkled on the altar, and blood mixed with the anointing oil was sprinkled on Aaron and his sons, and on their garments.