

A Holy Priesthood

EXODUS 38

JUSTIN THORNTON
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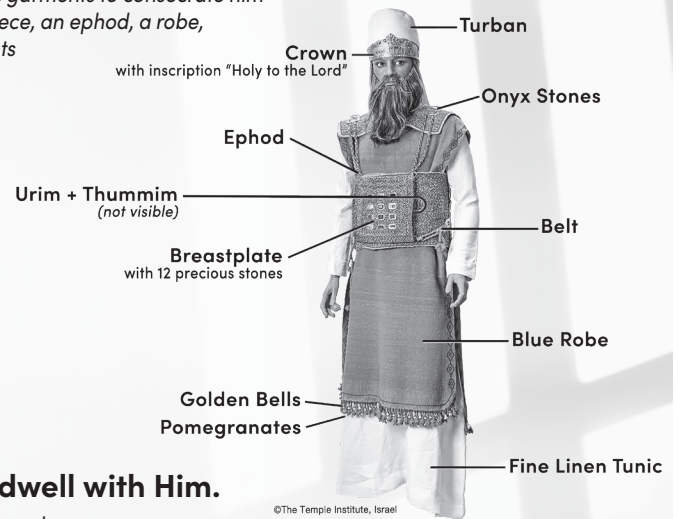


ho·ly *adj.* set apart for the purposes of God

God
Dwells
WITH US

I. God _____ a holy priesthood so Israel could dwell with Him.

"Then bring near to you Aaron your brother, and his sons with him, from among the people of Israel, to serve me as priests—Aaron and Aaron's sons, Nadab and Abihu, Eleazar and Ithamar. And you shall make holy garments for Aaron your brother, for glory and for beauty. You shall speak to all the skillful, whom I have filled with a spirit of skill, that they make Aaron's garments to consecrate him for my priesthood. These are the garments that they shall make: a breastpiece, an ephod, a robe, a coat of checker work, a turban, and a sash. They shall make holy garments for Aaron your brother and his sons to serve me as priests." Exodus 28:1-3



II. Jesus _____ our High Priest so we could dwell with Him.

Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. Hebrews 4:14-16

III. We are _____ God's holy priests.

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. 1 Peter 2:9

As a holy priest ...

_____ God's call to minister to the people, places and platforms He assigns you.

_____ God's character as one set apart for His purposes.

HOME GROUP

Lesson + Devotional

1. Read Exodus 28. Whom did God select to serve as priests, and to what tribe did they belong (vv. 1, 4:14)?
2. What was the chief purpose of the rich and striking garments made for priests?
3. Why did Aaron wear twelve stones with the names of the tribes on the "breastpiece for making decisions" (vv. 15-21, 29)?
4. How did God demonstrate the enormous responsibility that was on His priests (see vv. 31-33; 30:17-21)?
5. While the Lord said that all Israel was to be "a kingdom of priests and a holy nation" (Ex 19:6), He also created a formal priesthood in Israel. How does this compare with the situation in the body of Christ, and why?
6. Jesus is our High Priest (Heb 4:14). What do you learn about Jesus' work from the description of the high priest in Exodus 28?
7. As High Priest, Jesus solves our sin problem, then promotes us to be priests for others. What do the instructions for the priests tell you about what is involved in ministry on behalf of others?
8. Are you willing to devote the same amount of time and effort that was demanded of Aaron to meet others' spiritual needs? What needs to change so you are fulfilling the role God has assigned you?

HELPFUL Quotes

It may be noted in passing here that the three sections of the sanctuary were reflected in the high priestly attire: the robe corresponded to the courtyard, the ephod to the Holy Place, and the breast-piece to the Most Holy Place. - *Philip Johnson*

It was important that God's instructions for worship be carried out meticulously. Sloppy, careless or thoughtless worship did not honor God. ... Leaders need to be called by God and, like Aaron and his sons, must go through the process of sanctification—unless all selfish motives (egocentricity) are removed, such people are unlikely to be used as God's instruments. - *John Sailhamer*

In this section one doctrine emerges very clearly: the universality and pervasiveness of sin. The men chosen to minister to God in the tabernacle pollute the tabernacle and therefore purification offerings have to be offered. Their clothes and bodies are stained with sin and they must be smeared with blood to purify them. These sacrifices are not offered just once; they have to be repeated, because sin is deep-rooted in human nature and often recurs. There is no once-for-all cleansing known to the OT. It is the incorrigibility of the human heart that these ordination ceremonies bring into focus [cf. Ps 14:3]. - *Peter Enns*

The sanctuary as a whole represents the human heart and soul. - *Matthew Henry*

YOUR NEXT STEP AT Christ Chapel



Connect and Belong

New or returning, fill out a Connect Card and experience life together at Christ Chapel.

Together in Prayer

We want to pray with and for you this week as we go to God together.



Partner with Us by Giving

Be a part of what God is doing near and far by giving to local and global ministry partners.

Upcoming Events

Join in to grow your faith, make disciples, and reach those who do not know or walk with Jesus.



A WONDERFUL Offer

Being a Christian isn't based on membership in a local church or keeping a set of rules. It involves a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and an understanding of who He is and what He has done to provide man with a way to experience God's love for us. Here's how to know Jesus Christ as your personal Savior:

1. Admit that you're a sinner, separated from a holy and perfect God.
(Romans 3:23; Isaiah 53:6)
2. Understand that the penalty for your sin is death – eternal separation from God and all that is good.
(Romans 6:23; Hebrews 9:27)
3. Believe that Jesus Christ took the penalty for your sin by dying in your place and conquered death by rising from the dead.
(Romans 5:8; 2 Corinthians 5:21)
4. Receive the free gift of salvation by trusting in Christ alone as your Savior from sin and death and your provider of true and eternal life.
(Romans 4:4-5; Ephesians 2:8-9)

You can use this prayer to express your decision to God:

Dear God, I know that I am a sinner. I believe that Jesus Christ died on the cross for me and rose from the dead. I trust in him alone as the only way to be reconciled to you. Thank you for the forgiveness of sins and the eternal life I now have. Amen.



We'd love to know about your decision. Scan the QR code to learn more about following Jesus!