

## Exodus Part 32 (Chapter 39)

### Making the Priestly Garments

**Exo 39:1** From the blue, purple and scarlet yarn they made woven garments for ministering in the sanctuary. They also made sacred garments for Aaron, as the LORD commanded Moses.

Exo 39:2 They made the ephod of gold, and of blue, purple and scarlet yarn, and of finely twisted linen.

Exo 39:3 They hammered out thin sheets of gold and cut strands to be worked into the blue, purple and scarlet yarn and fine linen--the work of skilled hands.

Exo 39:4 They made shoulder pieces for the ephod, which were attached to two of its corners, so it could be fastened.

Exo 39:5 Its skillfully woven waistband was like it--of one piece with the ephod and made with gold, and with blue, purple and scarlet yarn, and with finely twisted linen, as the LORD commanded Moses.

Exo 39:6 They mounted the onyx stones in gold filigree settings and engraved them like a seal with the names of the sons of Israel.

Exo 39:7 Then they fastened them on the shoulder pieces of the ephod as memorial stones for the sons of Israel, as the LORD commanded Moses.

Exo 39:8 They fashioned the breastpiece--the work of a skilled craftsman. They made it like the ephod: of gold, and of blue, purple and scarlet yarn, and of finely twisted linen.

Exo 39:9 It was square--a span long and a span wide--and folded double.

Exo 39:10 Then they mounted four rows of precious stones on it. The first row was carnelian, chrysolite and beryl;

Exo 39:11 the second row was turquoise, lapis lazuli and emerald;

Exo 39:12 the third row was jacinth, agate and amethyst;

Exo 39:13 the fourth row was topaz, onyx and jasper. They were mounted in gold filigree settings.

Exo 39:14 There were twelve stones, one for each of the names of the sons of Israel, each engraved like a seal with the name of one of the twelve tribes.

Exo 39:15 For the breastpiece they made braided chains of pure gold, like a rope.

Exo 39:16 They made two gold filigree settings and two gold rings, and fastened the rings to two of the corners of the breastpiece.

Exo 39:17 They fastened the two gold chains to the rings at the corners of the breastpiece,

Exo 39:18 and the other ends of the chains to the two settings, attaching them to the shoulder pieces of the ephod at the front.

Exo 39:19 They made two gold rings and attached them to the other two corners of the breastpiece on the inside edge next to the ephod.

Exo 39:20 Then they made two more gold rings and attached them to the bottom of the shoulder pieces on the front of the ephod, close to the seam just above the waistband of the ephod.

Exo 39:21 They tied the rings of the breastpiece to the rings of the ephod with blue cord, connecting it to the waistband so that the breastpiece would not swing out from the ephod--as the LORD commanded Moses.

Exo 39:22 They made the robe of the ephod entirely of blue cloth--the work of a weaver--

Exo 39:23 with an opening in the center of the robe like the opening of a collar, and a band around this opening, so that it would not tear.

Exo 39:24 They made pomegranates of blue, purple and scarlet yarn and finely twisted linen around the hem of the robe.

Exo 39:25 And they made bells of pure gold and attached them around the hem between the pomegranates.

Exo 39:26 The bells and pomegranates alternated around the hem of the robe to be worn for ministering, as the LORD commanded Moses.

Exo 39:27 For Aaron and his sons, they made tunics of fine linen--the work of a weaver--

Exo 39:28 and the turban of fine linen, the linen caps and the undergarments of finely twisted linen.

Exo 39:29 The sash was made of finely twisted linen and blue, purple and scarlet yarn--the work of an embroiderer--as the LORD commanded Moses.

Exo 39:30 They made the plate, the sacred emblem, out of pure gold and engraved on it, like an inscription on a seal: HOLY TO THE LORD.

Exo 39:31 Then they fastened a blue cord to it to attach it to the turban, as the LORD commanded Moses.

Exo 39:32 So all the work on the tabernacle, the tent of meeting, was completed. The Israelites did everything just as the LORD commanded Moses.

Exo 39:33 Then they brought the tabernacle to Moses: the tent and all its furnishings, its clasps, frames, crossbars, posts and bases;

Exo 39:34 the covering of ram skins dyed red and the covering of another durable leather and the shielding curtain;

Exo 39:35 the ark of the covenant law with its poles and the atonement cover;

Exo 39:36 the table with all its articles and the bread of the Presence;

Exo 39:37 the pure gold lampstand with its row of lamps and all its accessories, and the olive oil for the light;

Exo 39:38 the gold altar, the anointing oil, the fragrant incense, and the curtain for the entrance to the tent;

Exo 39:39 the bronze altar with its bronze grating, its poles and all its utensils; the basin with its stand;

Exo 39:40 the curtains of the courtyard with its posts and bases, and the curtain for the entrance to the courtyard; the ropes and tent pegs for the courtyard; all the furnishings for the tabernacle, the tent of meeting;

Exo 39:41 and the woven garments worn for ministering in the sanctuary, both the sacred garments for Aaron the priest and the garments for his sons when serving as priests.

Exo 39:42 The Israelites had done all the work just as the LORD had commanded Moses.

Exo 39:43 Moses inspected the work and saw that they had done it just as the LORD had commanded. So Moses blessed them.

- Exodus 39 details the priestly garments, symbolizing holiness and the role of mediators between God and people.

The woven garments for ministering in the sanctuary—both the holy garments for Aaron the priest and the garments for his sons—to serve as priests.”

### **Priestly Garments: External Symbols, Eternal Truths**

The garments were “holy,” set apart exclusively for service in God’s presence.

They signified purity, dignity, and the authority granted by God

**Exo 28:2** Make sacred garments for your brother Aaron to give him dignity and honor.

Every thread shows that priestly ministry requires God-given righteousness, not human merit.

### **From Aaron to Jesus: The Ultimate High Priest**

Aaron foreshadowed Christ, who “has become a High Priest forever”

**Hebrews 6:19** We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure. It enters the inner sanctuary behind the curtain,

Heb 6:20 where our forerunner, Jesus, has entered on our behalf. He has become a high priest forever, in the order of Melchizedek.

Just as Aaron's wardrobe was God-designed, Jesus' qualification is God-ordained: "You are My Son; today I have become Your Father"

**Hebrews 5:5** In the same way, Christ did not take on himself the glory of becoming a high priest. But God said to him, "You are my Son; today I have become your Father."

The mediating role moves from temporary sacrifices to Christ's once-for-all offering

**Heb 7:27** Unlike the other high priests, he does not need to offer sacrifices day after day, first for his own sins, and then for the sins of the people. He sacrificed for their sins once for all when he offered himself.

### **Believers Clothed for Ministry: A Royal Priesthood**

Through Christ, every believer now wears spiritual "garments" of righteousness:

**Isaiah 61:10** I delight greatly in the LORD; my soul rejoices in my God. For he has clothed me with garments of salvation and arrayed me in a robe of his righteousness, as a bridegroom adorns his head like a priest, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

**Galatians 3:26** So in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith,

Gal 3:27 for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.

**1 Peter 2:9** But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.

John sees the church dressed for priestly kingship

**Revelation 1:4** John, To the seven churches in the province of Asia: Grace and peace to you from him who is, and who was, and who is to come, and from the seven spirits before his throne,

Rev 1:5 and from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood,

Rev 1:6 and has made us to be a kingdom and priests to serve his God and Father--to him be glory and power for ever and ever! Amen.

**Revelation 5:10** You have made them to be a kingdom and priests to serve our God, and they will reign on the earth."

- The New Testament presents Jesus as the ultimate High Priest, fulfilling the role of mediator (Hebrews 4:14-16).

**Hebrews 4:14** Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has ascended into heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess.

Heb 4:15 For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are--yet he did not sin.

Heb 4:16 Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

- The garments in Exodus foreshadow the righteousness of Christ, who clothes believers in His righteousness (Galatians 3:26-27).

**Galatians 3:26** So in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith, Galatians 3:27 for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.

- The meticulous instructions in Exodus highlight God's desire for order and holiness, reflected in the New Testament's call for believers to live holy lives (1 Peter 1:13-19).

**1 Peter 1:13** Therefore, with minds that are alert and fully sober, set your hope on the grace to be brought to you when Jesus Christ is revealed at his coming.

1Pe 1:14 As obedient children, do not conform to the evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance.

1Pe 1:15 But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do;

1Pe 1:16 for it is written: "Be holy, because I am holy."

1Pe 1:17 Since you call on a Father who judges each person's work impartially, live out your time as foreigners here in reverent fear.

1Pe 1:18 For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your ancestors,

1Pe 1:19 but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect.

- The sacrificial system established in Exodus is fulfilled in Christ's ultimate sacrifice for sin (Hebrews 10:10).

**Hebrews 10:10** And by that will, we have been made holy through the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

- Both texts emphasize the importance of worship and the presence of God among His people, culminating in the New Testament's promise of the Holy Spirit dwelling within believers (1 Corinthians 6:19).

**1 Corinthians 6:12** "I have the right to do anything," you say--but not everything is beneficial. "I have the right to do anything"--but I will not be mastered by anything.

1Co 6:13 You say, "Food for the stomach and the stomach for food, and God will destroy them both." The body, however, is not meant for sexual immorality but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body.

1Co 6:14 By his power God raised the Lord from the dead, and he will raise us also.

1Co 6:15 Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ himself? Shall I then take the members of Christ and unite them with a prostitute? Never!

1Co 6:16 Do you not know that he who unites himself with a prostitute is one with her in body? For it is said, "The two will become one flesh."

1Co 6:17 But whoever is united with the Lord is one with him in spirit.

1Co 6:18 Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a person commits are outside the body, but whoever sins sexually, sins against their own body.

1Co 6:19 Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own;

1Co 6:20 you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your bodies.