

**The Garments of Aaron**  
*The Eternal Union of Christ with His Elect*  
 Exodus 28

The Tabernacle would have been useless without the priestly family. Someone might ask, "Why do we not use priests today like Catholics or O.T. Israel?" The answer is found in the New Testament where we are told that the entire ritual of the Tabernacle "was a figure for the time then present" (Heb. 9:9), and "a shadow of good things to come, and not the very image of the things" (Heb. 10:1). After the advent, death and resurrection of Christ, the shadows must vanish because the substance is seen! At the cross, the old order (priests) ended, Judaism ceased and Christianity was introduced. How do we know a new order was introduced?

- (1). The High Priest rent his clothes at the death of Christ (Matt. 26:65). This was forbidden (Lev. 21:10).
- (2). The rending of the veil (Matt. 27:51) which meant the barrier into God's presence no longer existed.

The sons of Aaron (the Levites) are O.T. types of all believers (the sons of God). This is seen repeatedly in the New Testament where it is said we "are kings and priests unto God" (Rev. 1:6), "a holy priesthood" (I Peter 2:5), and again "a royal priesthood" (I Peter 2:9). Every Christian has equal access unto God. These O.T. priests were

- (1). From the least of all tribes due to the shame and curse brought on by their father Levi (Genesis 49:5-7).
- (2). Chosen by God on the basis of His Sovereign desire that the Levites were to be priests (Numbers 17).
- (3). Served the entire nation of Israel in their daily lives, just as Christians are salt and light to the world.

**Levitical priests are types of New Covenant believers and Aaron is a type of our High Priest the Lord Jesus.**

- (1). **Aaron wore an ephod** (28:6-7) --- an outer robe. Only the High Priest wore this. It speaks of **his Supremacy**. The robe was made of gold interlaced with linen --- "and they beat the gold into thin plates and cut it into wires to work it in the linen" (Exodus 39:3). Gold speaks of divine glory and linen of holy humanity, thus we see the two natures of Christ. "Seeing then that we have a great High Priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God" (Hebrews 4:14). Christ is the unique God-man. The son of God and the son of man. Attached to this ephod were two **onyx stones** (onyx -- Heb. "to shine with the luster of fire"). These ancient stones are not the modern onyx. One stone on each shoulder called "*precious stones*" (Job 28:16). Upon these stones were engraved the names of the children of Israel. They were placed in "ouches" on the shoulder (settings) and chained to the ephod with golden chains. The shoulder is the symbol of strength. In Luke 15:5 when the shepherd goes after the the lost lamb, he finds it and brings it back on his shoulder. "Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given, and the government shall be upon his shoulder" (Isaiah 9:6).
  - (a). "We are kept by the power of God" (I Peter 1:5). (b). "He is able to keep that which I have committed unto Him" (II Tim. 1:12), (c). His is the shoulder "that upholds all things" (Heb 1:3).
- (2). **Aaron wore a girdle** (28:8) --- a belt made of linen (with needlework). This girdle tells us of **His Service**. "Jesus riseth from supper, and laid aside his garments; and took a towel and girded himself" (John 13:4). "For I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done to you" (John 13:15). "But I am among you as He that serves" (Luke 22:27). "He (Jesus) ever liveth to make intercession (Hebrews 7:25).
- (3). **Aaron wore a breastplate** (28:15-30) --- which went over the ephod. This breastplate points to **our Security**. It was a handbreadth, made of linen and square, tied to the onyx stones with a golden blue cord. The names Of God's people (the 12 sons of Jacob) were engraved upon the precious gems with the breastplate. These stones were absolutely secure --- they were each in individual settings and had chains upon them. These gems were very special --- they covered the heart of the High Priest. "Who can separate us from the love of Christ?" (Romans 8). Our names are written upon the heart of Christ.
- (4). **Aaron wore a robe** (28:31-35) --- which was under the ephod but on top of the coat. It speaks of **Sacredness**. It was made of the heavenly color --- blue. Christ is our Saviour from Heaven. On the hem of this robe were tassles made of pomegranates. The noise made these tassles enabled the people to hear the priest move about
- (5). **Aaron wore a crown** (28:35-38) --- which had engraved on it "Holiness to the Lord." We see **His Sufficiency**. We are able to stand before the Lord because our Saviour alone is holy before the Lord. We are in Him.
- (6). **Aaron wore a coat (28:39)** --- this coat was made of fine linen. It represents for us **His Sinlessness**. This was the garment underneath everything else. All other things were supported by it.
- (7). **Aaron wore a mitre** (28:39) --- which means "a roll of material" and in it we see **His Submissiveness**. This material was upon the head and represents subjection (I Corinthians 11:3-10). Jesus said, "I have come to do the will of my Father which is in heaven."