

Sermon Notes

02/08/26

“Have Aaron your brother brought to you from among the Israelites, along with his sons Nadab and Abihu, Eleazar and Ithamar, so they may serve me as priests. ² Make sacred garments for your brother Aaron to give him dignity and honor. ³ Tell all the skilled workers to whom I have given wisdom in such matters that they are to make garments for Aaron, for his consecration, so he may serve me as priest. ⁴ These are the garments they are to make: a breastpiece, an ephod, a robe, a woven tunic, a turban and a sash. They are to make these sacred garments for your brother Aaron and his sons, so they may serve me as priests. ⁵ Have them use gold, and blue, purple and scarlet yarn, and fine linen.

⁶ “Make the ephod of gold, and of blue, purple and scarlet yarn, and of finely twisted linen—the work of skilled hands. ⁷ It is to have two shoulder pieces attached to two of its corners, so it can be fastened. ⁸ Its skillfully woven waistband is to be like it—of one piece with the ephod and made with gold, and with blue, purple and scarlet yarn, and with finely twisted linen.

⁹ “Take two onyx stones and engrave on them the names of the sons of Israel ¹⁰ in the order of their birth—six names on one stone and the remaining six on the other. ¹¹ Engrave the names of the sons of Israel on the two stones the way a gem cutter engravés a seal. Then mount the stones in gold filigree settings ¹² and fasten them on the shoulder pieces of the ephod as memorial stones for the sons of Israel. Aaron is to bear the names on his shoulders as a memorial before the Lord. ¹³ Make gold filigree settings ¹⁴ and two braided chains of pure gold, like a rope, and attach the chains to the settings. Exodus 28:1-14

Our passage today marks a shift in how we understand a relationship with God.

The entire design answers a simple question: *How can we draw near when God chooses to draw near to us?*

The tabernacle is only the starting point, a visual explanation of God’s desire to be with His people and to draw them closer to Himself.

Presence → Sacrifice → _____

1. Exclusive:

Although the Levites served in the tabernacle, it was only the descendants of Aaron who would be the priests.

2. Serve Me:

That statement shows up _____ times in the first _____ verses.

The serving isn’t primarily for the people — it’s _____.

His desire for connection drives the system — the priests act in obedience to His will, and in doing so, the people are brought into His presence.

3. Dignity and Honor:

The High Priest was **representing** _____ **to** _____, and the garments gave a visual reminder of who they represented.

4. Gold, Blue, Purple, and Scarlet:

They reflect the inner curtain that leads into the Most Holy place where the Ark of the Covenant and mercy seat reside.

The blue points to the law, the purple points to royalty, and the scarlet points to the blood of atonement.

5. Ephod:

Its like an _____ the priest would wear.

6. 2 Onyx Stones:

As the priest came into the presence of God he would carry on his shoulders the _____ of the people.

Theophanies, Christophanies, and Typologies

What we are reading is not merely history or clothing instructions; it is God giving us a visual hint of a greater reality still to come.

Through this system, God was teaching His people _____.

The altar dealt with guilt, but the priest dealt with _____.

He does not simply cancel the debt; He opens the relationship. The earthly priest could help maintain access, but Christ creates intimacy itself — not occasional approach, but continual welcome.

“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. 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.” Hebrews 4:14–15

Where the High Priest was limited, Jesus _____.

The High Priest bore twelve tribal names; Jesus _____.

The Aaronic priest provided repeated access; Jesus _____.

Life

The garments point us toward action.

⁵ you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. 1 Peter 2:5

¹⁴ Rather, clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ, and do not think about how to gratify the desires of the flesh. Romans 13:14

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

¹² Therefore, as God’s chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Colossians 3:12

⁵³ For the perishable must clothe itself with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality. ⁵⁴ When the perishable has been clothed with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality, then the saying that is written will come true: “Death has been swallowed up in victory.” 1 Corinthians 15:53-54

The image God has given us to wrestle with is a priest clothed in such a way that brings dignity and honor, glory and beauty.

If those aren’t your garments, let it be a reminder of how Jesus wants to _____ you, how He wants to _____ you. Will you surrender to that _____?