

Life-Study of Exodus Summaries – Messages 131-135

MESSAGES 131–132 – The Priestly Garments

The Five Other Items

In **Exodus 28:36-43** we have five items: the **plate**, the **turban**, the **tunic**, the **girdle**, and the **breeches**. Only the high priest wore the plate of gold, but all the priests wore turbans, tunics, girdles, and breeches. The principle of all these garments are for expression; they are signs, symbols, expressions. The conclusion of the record of the priestly garments involves **holiness and righteousness**. Holiness is clearly signified in the golden plate with the inscription “Holy unto Jehovah”. The turban, tunic, girdle, and breeches were all made of linen which signifies righteousness.

The **golden plate** was a **holy crown, diadem, or blossom**. The fact that the plate of gold was put on a ribbon of blue indicates that **genuine holiness is related to heavenliness**. The tunic of fine linen of woven work signifies the covering of perfect righteousness in a humanity that has been **dealt with**. The turban of fine linen signifies the **glory** of perfect righteousness. The girdle of the work of an embroiderer signifies the **strengthening** of the Spirit’s constituting work. These items are all related to **covering** the **fallen being** of a priest. These linen coverings signify Christ as our righteousness to cover our entire fallen being so that we may be priests.

The operation of the Triune God revealed in **1 Peter 1** has a twofold result. First, it results in a holy life; this is **sanctification**, related to the purification of our souls. The second result, a further issue, is unfeigned **love of the brothers**. **Holiness is God wrought into us**. (Life-Study of Exodus, 131–132)

MESSAGES 133–135 – The Sanctification of Aaron and his Sons to be the Priests

Filling our Empty Hands

Exodus 29:9 talks about the filling of the priests’ hands. **We cannot serve God empty-handed**. If we are to serve Him, our hands must be **filled with Christ**. This is the reason we pray and meet in the name of the Lord Jesus. Whoever has Christ in his hands to fill his emptiness is **set apart**, sanctified. In order to have our hands filled with Christ, we need to be **washed**. By the water of the word, we are sanctified and cleansed. In addition to being washed and **clothed**, the priests needed **inward nourishment**, inward strengthening. We all should be priests whose hands are filled with Christ.

The Sin Offering

When we come to the Lord, we still need the **sin offering** because we are still **living in the flesh**, in the old creation. The sin offering was not food for the priests. The **first burning** produced a sweet savor that **ascended to God for His satisfaction**. Regarding the sin offering, the inward fat and certain inward parts were burned for God’s enjoyment. This burning satisfied **God’s requirements**. The **second kind of burning** was the burning of the flesh, the skin, and the dung outside the camp. These were burned with the fire of **judgment**. If we realize that we have a sinful nature and if we **lay our hands on Christ** to be fully identified with Him, we shall be protected and, according to typology, prepared to enjoy the priestly food.

It is very important for us to see that if we would be priests in a practical way, **we must experience Christ as the sin offering**. If we have this understanding and realization, we shall not argue with others. Knowing that we have a sinful nature and **offering Christ** to God as our sin offering will protect us and preserve us so that we may serve God as His priests. (Life-Study of Exodus, 133–135)