

Exodus Ch. 28

- In many ways this chapter is about obedience, even in the little things. God gives attention and direction about a lot details and it all comes down to how we're going to worship God, on His terms, or not.

John 4:24 “God is a Spirit: and they that worship Him must worship Him in Spirit and in Truth.”

Hebrews 3:1 “Wherefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling consider the Apostle and High Priest of our profession, Christ Jesus.”

- V: 1 God is speaking directly to Moses, that Moses is to take Aaron, Nadab, Abihu, Eleazar, and Ithamar; and they are to be set apart – to be consecrated for God's use.

“from among the children of Israel...”

Hebrews 5:1-2 “¹For every high priest taken from among men is ordained for men in things pertaining to God, that he may offer both gifts and sacrifices for sins: ²who can have compassion on the ignorant, and on them that are out of the way; for that he himself also is compassed with infirmity.”

- The priesthood / pastorate is made up of ordinary men; with the same weaknesses as everybody else.

“minister unto Me...” Repeated in verses: 3, 4, 41

- Here we see the focus of true ministry: which is to the Lord as opposed to “for” the Lord.
- The purpose of the church is to worship Him, exalt Him, to honor & bless His holy name – not necessarily to come and be ministered to.

1 Peter 2:5 “Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ.”

Jeremiah 33:11 “The voice of joy, and the voice of gladness, the voice of the bridegroom, and the voice of the bride, the voice of them that shall say, praise the Lord of hosts: for the Lord is good; for His mercy endureth for ever: and of them that shall bring the sacrifice of praise into the house of the Lord...”

Hebrews 13:15 “By Him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to His name.”

1 Peter 2:9 “But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of Him who hath called you out of darkness into His marvelous light.”

- When we worship, we worship “to” the Lord. When we read or study, we study “with Him”, we’re seeking His face and fellowship with Him.
- Ministry is a family affair; it’s about relationship, ours is a relational God.

V: 2-3 The priestly garments were to be made from the same materials as the Tabernacle itself; there is and was to be a connection.

- God cares what things look like.
- God will give those who are involved the spirit of wisdom, gifted artisans, or craftsmen to create these special garments.
- They are named in Ch. 31: 1-6, 10. (turn to)

Exodus 31:1-6, 10 “¹And the Lord spake unto Moses, saying, ²see, I have called by name Bezaleel the son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah: ³And have filled him with the Spirit of God, in wisdom, and in understanding, and in knowledge, and in all manner of workmanship, to devise cunning works, to work in gold, and in silver, and brass, ⁵and in cutting of stones, to set them, and in carving of timber, to work in all manner of workmanship. ⁶And I, behold, I have given with him Aholiab, the son of Ahisamach, of the tribe of Dan: in the hearts of all that are wise hearted I have put wisdom, that they make all that I have commanded thee;” – “¹⁰And the cloths of service, and the holy garments for Aaron the priest, and the garments of his sons, to minister in the priest’s office.”

- Skill & wisdom of every kind all come from the Lord.

1 Corinthians 4:7 “For who maketh thee to differ from another? And what hast thou that thou didst not receive? Now if thou didst receive it, why dost thou glory, as thou hadst not received it?”

James 1:5 “If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.”

- God stirred up these men to do the work; they were gifted and loved doing it unto the Lord.
- We see the necessity of being filled with the Holy Spirit, empowered by the Holy Spirit.

- These shall be holy garments, different than ordinary clothes; they shall be for glory and beauty.

Psalm 132:9 “Let thy priests be clothed with righteousness; and let thy saints shout for joy.”

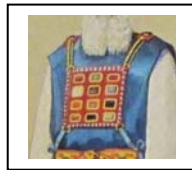
Psalm 132:16 “I will also cloth her priests with salvation: and her saints shall shout aloud for joy.”

V: 4-5 These are the garments that are to be constructed:

1. Breastplate. Woven work with jewels.
2. Ephod. Breastplate & shoulder epelets w/onyx stones.
3. Robe.
4. Embroidered coat. Apron / outer tunic.
5. Mitre / turban. Hat.
6. Girdle / sash.

- And they shall be made of gold, blue, purple, scarlet, and fine woven linen.
- Purpose: that they may minister unto Me.

V: 6-12 The Ephod was a sort of vest, or tunic, or apron: made of gold, blue, purple, scarlet, and fine woven linen, this will go over the robe.



1. Every thing was made with “cunning work” – intricate detail, craftsmanship.
2. It hung over the shoulders covering the chest and back, it was joined at the shoulders with two epilates consisting of two onyx stones set in gold.

3. “Curious” / embroidered sash.



4. The onyx stones were to be engraved with the names of the twelve tribes of Israel by order of their birth, six on each stone. (25 Hebrew letter on each stone)



5. The idea was that the priest would bear the names of the twelve tribes before the Lord and that He would be moved to have mercy upon His people.
6. It was to be made of gold (deity), blue (heaven), purple (royalty), scarlet (blood), and fine woven linen which was white (righteousness / purity).
 - Memorial: carried / bourn by the Lord out of Egypt, through the Red Sea, across the wilderness.

V: 13-14 They were to make settings and chains of “wreathen” work.

- String, wreath or foliage; band, cord, rope, thick bough (branch), wreathen.
- The breastplate was attached to the ephod with these gold chains.

V: 15-16 The breast plate, or the “breast plate of judgment” would go over the ephod. Judgment = decisions.

- Cunning work or gold, blue, purple, scarlet, and fine woven linen.
- Foursquare / doubled; meaning folded over forming a pouch.
- A “span”, which is the distance from the tip of the little finger to the tip of the thumb when spread out; on average about 9”.

V: 17-20 The breastplate would consist of 4 rows of three stones, each set in gold, each engraved with the name of one of the 12 tribes.

Revelation 21:19-20 ¹⁹And the foundations of the wall of the city were garnished with all manner of precious stones. The first foundation was jasper; the second sapphire; the third a chalcedony; the fourth, and emerald; ²⁰the fifth, sardonyx; the sixth, sardius; the seventh, chrysolite; the eighth, beryl; the ninth, a topaz; the tenth, a chrysoprasus; the eleventh, a jacinth; the twelfth, an amethyst.”

(Transliteration Hebrew to English only two. The rest are uncertain.)

1. **Sardius**: Ruby; is a stone of a blood-red or flesh color.
2. **Topaz**: A yellowish colour, and pellucid, but it is also found of greenish, bluish, or brownish shades.
3. Carbuncle: dark green
4. **Emerald**: bright green
5. **Sapphire**: Sky blue
6. Diamond: White / clear
7. Ligure: similar to turquoise.
8. Agate: A multi-colored, banded stone.
9. **Amethyst**: purple / violet
10. **Beryl**: aquamarine.
11. **Onyx** : black, jet black.
12. **Jasper**: red / brown quartz.



- The 12 tribes are first seen or represented in the two onyx stones on the shoulders, seen collectively or corporately.
- Each of the 12 tribes is also seen or represented individually.
- We are seen as the bride of Christ, the church collectively; and at the same time as individual believers, sheep of His pasture.
- Earlier the two Onyx stone representing the 12 tribes were bourn on the shoulders of the high priest – as though bearing a burden, the same place where Jesus bore the cross.
- Yet the individual stones are suspended over his heart, just as we each individually are kept close to His heart.
- Looking at the first stone and the last stone; we see the Alpha and the Omega – Jesus.
- The first stone was engraved with the name of **Reuben**; which means “behold a son”

Isaiah 7:14 “Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son...”

- The last stone was engraved with the name of **Benjamin**; which means “son of my right hand.”

Hebrews 12:2 “Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.”

V: 21 Like the engraving of a signet: Where are we? Where are our names engraved?

Isaiah 49:15-16 ¹⁵“Can a woman forget her sucking child, that she should not have compassion on the son of her womb? Yea, they may forget, yet will I not forget thee. ¹⁶Behold, I have graven thee upon the palms of my hands; thy walls are continually before me.”

V: 22-29 Everything is connected together, the breastplate (individuals) to the two settings with the onyx stones, to the nation (church).

- The ephod connected to both, made from the same materials as the Tabernacle – the place of worship.
- Bound together with a gold chain, and with “a lace of blue” – connected to or by heaven.
- There are some who say that there is no place for the church in our worship of God, God disagrees, the Tabernacle and the Temple are proof of that.

Hebrews 10:25 “Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.”

1 Corinthians 12:12-16 ¹²“For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also is Christ. ¹³For by one spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit. ¹⁴For the body is not one member, but many. ¹⁵If the foot shall say, because I am not the hand, I am not of the body; is it therefore not of the body? ¹⁶And if the ear shall say, because I am not the eye, I am not of the body; is it therefore not of the body.”

- All these things are to be for a memorial before the Lord continually.
- Since God doesn't need to be reminded, this must be intended to bring us into remembrance of something.

V: 30 “Urim & Thummim” – “light & perfection”

- The Urim & Thummim were used to determine God's will regarding a subject. We don't know specifically this worked, but it was the same as consulting God – and getting an answer right there.
- Some think that they were possibly colored stones used in casting lots to get either a “yes” or a “no” – be we really don't know.
- We do know that God spoke to and directed His servants in this manner, we just know how it worked.

V: 31-32 Robe or the ephod: blue, reinforced about the neck hole so that it wouldn't tear.



V: 33 Pomegranates: blood red, lots of seeds.

V: 34 Bells were made to have a beautiful sound in and of themselves. But if they hit each other, they were like clanging cymbals.

- But if they were separated by pomegranates, by the fruit of the Spirit, they would ring in harmony.
1. 1 Corinthians chapter 12 describes the gifts of the Spirit.
 2. 1 Corinthians chapter 14 also talks about the gifts of the Spirit.
 3. In between the two is 1 Corinthians chapter 13, describing love, the fruit of the Spirit.

V: 35 As long as the bells were making melody, they knew that the High Priest was alive.

- When the High Priest went into the Holy of Holies on the day of atonement, he went in with a rope tied around his ankle. If the bells stopped ringing, or if they heard an obvious thump – like a body hitting the floor. They knew that the High Priest had been slain by the Lord and they would use the rope around his ankle to haul him out. The bells ringing was a sign of life.
- As long as the gifts of the Spirit are being exercised in the church, people will know that our Great High Priest, Jesus is alive.

V: 36-38 “HOLINESS TO THE LORD”

HOLINESS: (H-6944). qodesh, ko'-desh; a sacred place or thing; sanctified, consecrated, dedicated (thing), hallowed (thing), holiness.

Holiness: whole, complete. Sin erodes, destroys, takes away. Holiness adds to us, makes us more complete, leads to happiness.

LORD: H-3068. Yehovah, yeh-ho-vaw'; from H1961; (the) self-Existent or Eternal; Jeho-vah.

Mitre: H-4701. mitsnepheth, mits-neh'-feth; from H6801; a tiara, i.e. official **turban** (of a king or high priest):--diadem, mitre.

- Hebrews: Great High Priest – Jesus. Head of the church, the body of Christ.
- Like Jesus we are to always have Holiness on our minds, Holiness is to be our covering, it is to fill our minds.

1 Corinthians 2:16b “But we have the mind of Christ.”

- Where the head goes, the body follows.
- Blue cord – heavenly connection.
- Battlefield is the mind:



1 Peter 1:13 “Wherefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and hope to the end for the grace that is to be brought unto you at the revelation of Jesus Christ.”

Romans 12:2 “And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.”

V: 39 The coat / tunic and the turbin / hat, and the girdle / sash all of fine linen, embroidered work.

V: 40 Bonnets – their heads were covered in worship, symbolizing submission.

- The plain white robes are a contrast to the glorious robe of the High Priest, just as the fine linen curtains were to the door of the Tabernacle courtyard.
- Even today Jews wear Yarmulkes as and outward sign of submission to God’s authority.



V: 41 “shalt anoint”

- Jesus was anointed: He was called God’s anointed.

Psalms 45:7b “... therefore God, thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows.”

Isaiah 61:1 “The Spirit of the Lord God is upon Me; because the Lord hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; He hath sent Me to bind up the broken hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound.”

- As believers in Jesus Christ we too are anointed:

2 Corinthians 1:20-22 “²⁰For all the promises of God in Him are yea, and in Him Amen, unto the glory of God by us. ²¹Now He which stablisheth us with you in Christ, and hath anointed us, is God; ²²who hath also sealed us, and given the earnest of the spirit in our hearts.”

1 John 2:20 “But ye have an unction / anointing from the Holy One, and ye know all things. (21-22 discerning truth from lies, etc.)

1 John 2:27 “But the anointing which ye have received of Him abideth in you, and ye need not that any man teach you: but as the same anointing teacheth you of all things, and is truth, and is no lie, and even as it hath taught you, ye shall abide in Him.”

John 14:26 “But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in My name, He shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.”

- Because we're anointed, we too are to be consecrated, sanctified, set apart for God use, and for His purposes.

V: 42 Linen breeches. Underneath the robe, out of sight – there was to be righteousness.

- God isn't as concerned with our reputation – what we look like on the inside; He's more concerned with our character – what we look like on the inside.

V: 43 Those that ministered to the Lord had to be properly clothed, or they would die.

- The sin here would be that of disobedience, a refusal to put on the things, the clothing exactly as God had said.
- We too must be clothed in His righteousness, or we die.

Isaiah 61:10 “I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for He hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, he hath covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decketh himself with ornaments, and as a bride adorneth herself with her jewels.

We need to put on Jesus!