

COLERAINE FREE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
(Interim Moderator: Rev Ryan McKee)

GARMENTS OF THE HIGH PRIEST EXODUS 28

Speaker: Rev Ron Johnstone

THE EPHOD Exodus 28:6-14.

He wore the Ephod:

• **FOR RECOGNITION**

An Ephod was a garment that identified a priest. The colourful garment was the High Priest's insignia of office. It had gold wires worked through the blue, purple, scarlet and white threads v6; Exodus 39:3. The term *fine twinned Linen* denotes whiteness. These are the same colours so prevalent in the Tabernacle in which the High Priest served. They set forth the glory of Christ as God (gold), King (purple), perfect man (white linen) and Suffering Saviour (scarlet) Psalm 22:6.

• **FOR REPRESENTATION**

The names of the 12 Tribes were engraved upon the two Onyx stones which formed the shoulder clasps as a '*memorial unto the Israelites*' v12. *Memorial* means to bring something to mind. The stones reminded them that their name was being borne before God by their representative. '*Aaron shall bear their names before the Lord*'.

The names were listed according to birth v10. All of God's people are entirely equally and eternally engraved upon our Saviour's shoulders. Christ, our Great High Priest, appears in heaven to intercede for us Hebrews 7:25; 9:24.

Shoulders speak of strength, security and stability.

• **FOR REMEMBRANCE**

Aaron also bore those names upon his shoulders *as a memorial to God* v12. To bring to God's mind. When we read that God remembered Noah, Abraham and others, it does not mean that He had forgotten about them. Rather it denotes that He acted towards them according to His Covenant promise. Genesis 8:1; 9:14, 16; Genesis 19:29; Psalm 106:4. God, right now, sees your name upon Christ's shoulders and remembers His covenant!

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THE CURIOUS GIRDLE v8, Leviticus 8:7.

Curious means skilful. It was a wide BELT, around the waist to bind the Ephod in place.

It symbolizes our High Priest's:

SERVICE--Luke 17:8; John 13:4; Luke 12:37.

STRENGTH--Psalm 18::32; Isaiah 22:21.

SWIFTNESS--Exodus 12:11; Luke 12:35.