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

GARMENTS OF THE HIGH PRIEST EXODUS 28 Speaker: Rev Ron Johnstone

BREASTPLATE Exodus 28:15-30 It was made from the same material as the Ephod. Upon it were set 12 precious stones.

• THE SETTING OF THE STONES v17

Each precious stone had one of the names of the Twelve tribes engraved upon it.

Note:

Their Variety, Unity. Harmony and Beauty.

They were arranged in 4 rows with 3 in each row, not by birth order, as on the stones on the shoulders, but 'according to the twelve tribes' v21.

That is the order in which God commanded they camp, walk through the wilderness and go to war Numbers 2;10:14-28.

Each believer is gifted and placed in His service as He wills 1 Corinthians 12:4-7; Ephesians 4:7.

• THE SITE OF THE STONES

They are situated upon his heart v29, 30. At times you may feel unloved, unappreciated, and unwanted. That is wrong.

Moment by moment your Great High Priest has you

upon His heart of love and is bearing you up in prayer before the Throne.

Jeremiah 31:3; John 17:23; Galatians 2:20.

• THE SECURITY OF THE STONES

The stones could not fall off and be lost. Each stone was held in a gold enclosing v19. The breastplate was secured by gold chains of wreathen work v22 and tied with laces of blue to gold rings v23, 24, 27, 28 'that it be not loosed.'

Gold symbolises glory. If a stone would be lost the glory would be diminished Romans 8:35.

I am kept secure because I am on My High Priest's heart and He intercedes for me Hebrews 7:25.

• THE SECRET ASSOCIATED WITH THE BREASTPLATE v30

'Bear the judgment' is not referring to punishment but to obtaining direction on a specific matter.

There is a mystery about what *Urim* (lights) and *Thummim* (judgements) were, but we do know they gave direction Numbers 27:18; Ezra 2:63; Proverbs 16:33; 1 Samuel 30:7, 8.

When you don't know what to do, you should go to your Great High Priest for guidance.

He will direct your path.

Always remember that His specific will for your life comes from His heart of love Romans 12:1-3.