

Intro:

Main Point of Text: God chooses men and their clothing to offer holy service on behalf of His people unto Him.

Sermon Point: *Present Yourselves Holy and Acceptable to God.*

Move 1: God chooses who will be His official servants.

He selects priests from His chosen people for official representation in corporate worship: Vs. 1. Priests/pastors have formal responsibility to show God honor. Heb. 5:4-6: *And no man taketh this honour unto himself, but he that is called of God, as was Aaron. So also Christ glorified not himself to be made an high priest; but he that said unto him, Thou art my Son, to day have I begotten thee [Ps. 2:7]. As he saith also in another place, Thou art a priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec [Ps. 110:4].*

Move 2: And God wants His ministers to be respected.

Vs. 5: priestly garments to be made of fine materials; Vs. 3: by wise workers. Vs. 2: To be holy, and show glory/beauty (decorum, distinction, honor, dignity). Rom. 15:16: the priestly work of the pastor (Calvin).

Move 3: God's ministers serve a high and holy calling that reflects your own calling in Christ.

Priestly work highlighted (vss. 1, 3, 4). Also his "holy garments" (Vss. 2, 4). Vs. 4, many pieces for high priest to cover up. To avoid shame, Ex. 20:26. J. Gill: deliberate fashion design in opposition to pagan priests of the time who were ministered in nakedness. You are all chosen by God to be a kingdom of priests and a holy nation (Ex. 19:6; 1 Pet. 2:5, 9). Ex. 27:20-21, the people were to bring the pure oil for the priests to burn. Here the priests are to be taken from among the people. You are to be the source of holiness (separateness from the world). The high priest represents the people by the ephod of twelve stones (Ex. 28:9-12). And he represents them as "Holiness to the Lord" (vs. 36). Lev. 11:44-45; 1 Peter. 1:15-16.

Move 4: The priests and the people are chosen by God to offer up holy service unto Him.

Also emphasized, "unto me" (vss. 1, 3, 4). Vs. 36: "Holiness to the Lord". Heb. 5:1: *For every high priest taken from among men is ordained for men in things pertaining to God ...* Psalm 29:2; Psalm 115:1; 132:1

Conclusion:

I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world ... (Rom 12:1-2)

Present Yourselves Holy and Acceptable to God.