

The Priesthood
Exodus 28:1-2
August 30, 2015

Main Point:

As seen in the Levitical priesthood, you need a priest who is both like you and unlike you. You have that priest in Jesus Christ, so be thankful for Him and rely upon His ministry for you.

1. Being a sinner, you need a priest to minister on your behalf.

2. Your priest needs to be like you.

3. Your priest also needs to be unlike you.

4. You have that priest in Jesus Christ.

Philip Ryken “The tabernacle was not self-service. Rather, its sacred duties were performed by holy men with a holy calling.”

Hebrews 5:1-2 ¹ For every high priest taken from among men is appointed for men in things *pertaining* to God, that he may offer both gifts and sacrifices for sins. ² He can have compassion on those who are ignorant and going astray, since he himself is also subject to weakness. (NKJV)

Philip Ryken “It was almost as if the high priest ‘embodied the tabernacle.’ Anyone who saw him immediately recognized that he belonged there.”

Hebrews 2:14a ¹⁴ Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same ... (NKJV)

Hebrews 7:26 ²⁶ For such a High Priest was fitting for us, *who* is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and has become higher than the heavens; (NKJV)

Hebrews 2:17 ¹⁷ Therefore, in all things He had to be made like *His* brethren, that He might be a merciful and faithful High Priest in things *pertaining* to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people. (NKJV)

Hebrews 2:18 ¹⁸ For in that He Himself has suffered, being tempted, He is able to aid those who are tempted. (NKJV)

1 Timothy 2:5 ⁵ For *there is* one God and one Mediator between God and men, *the* Man Christ Jesus, (NKJV)

The High Priest's Holy Garments

The illustration depicts the holy garments worn by the high priests (Exodus 28; 39).

The *turban* of fine linen held a plate of pure shining gold, on which were engraved the Hebrew words for “Holy to YHWH.”

The *ephod* (a colorful linen torso garment held by a skillfully woven waistband) had two shoulder pieces, each holding an onyx stone. The names of the 12 sons of Israel were engraved on these two stones. The cloth *breastpiece of judgment* had four rows, each with three precious stones. Each of these stones had engraved upon it the name of one of the tribes of Israel. The breast-piece also contained the Urim and the Thummim, and was attached to the ephod by gold chains and rings. The blue *robe* was worn under the ephod (Lev. 8:7–8); colorful imitation pomegranates lined the hem of the robe, alternating with golden bells. The white *coat* or tunic of checkered weave and fine linen was probably held by the embroidered sash under the robe.



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