

**The Breastplate of Righteousness**

**040903-2**

*Hello! This is Dorothy -*

I wonder, if you have a Bible to hand, you could open it right at the beginning to **Exodus chapter 28**. You might say, "Oh, it is so heavy! I tried reading this, but I cannot make sense of it." You know, everything we are reading is pointing to the Lord Jesus. If you understand it that way, things become alive by the Spirit of the Lord within. We read in this chapter that God told Moses he was to make holy garments for Aaron, his brother, who was the high priest. The garments were for glory and beauty for people who were set apart for God. They were to be set apart, which simply means they were to be holy, consecrated, separated, or sanctified, and not drawing attention to themselves in their ministry. Isn't that interesting? Why is it that when anybody is in a public place, they somehow feel they are the key person? Many years ago, somebody said to me, "We have to really draw attention to ourselves and then we can tell people about Jesus." We miss it, if we have that idea! No. The whole idea is that the glory and the beauty is drawing attention to Jesus and let us be quick to tell people Who is doing the work and Who gets all the honor.

We read in this chapter in **verse 4 — And these are the garments that they shall make . . . -the garments of the high priest included - . .**

**. a breastplate, and an ephod, and a robe, and a broidered coat, a mitre, and a girdle: and they shall make holy garments for Aaron thy brother, and his sons . . . - and listen to this - . . . that they may minister unto me . . .** I cannot emphasize enough to say, if you love the Lord Jesus, do not draw attention to yourself in your ministry. It all has to do with ministering unto the Lord.

We read also in this chapter in **verse 15** about the actual **breastplate**.

This is amazing when we read about it. This breastplate actually carried in it some of the most amazing factors we can learn about how God puts upon His heart you and me. This was a memorial before the Lord continually. It was **the breastplate of judgment**. Did you realize that was its full name? For we read in **verse 30** that it was to be worn by the high priest when judging the cases of the people. The breastplate was secured actually and fastened to an **ephod**, which was made of the same material. This was an outer garment and worn with a long sleeveless tunic reaching down to about the waist. In this linen pouch, as it were, were gold settings in which there were four rows of precious stones. Each row had three different stones. On each stone was written the name of one of the twelve tribes of Israel. The breastplate, with its jewel-work, was attached in this amazing way by gold chains. Gold speaks always of deity. Golden rings speak of His eternity; His continuance. These were sewn to this ephod and breastplate. They were secured by laces of blue, which speak of this

heavenly, heavenly color.

“Oh,” you say, “it is so complicated!” Let me put it this way. **The robe** speaks of Christ’s character and righteous office. In **Romans 3:22**, we read— . . . **the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all that believe . . .** It is His righteousness that we are looking upon. And it is His righteousness He said He will put upon those who have freely received Jesus in His work by His precious Blood. It is not by our works; it is what Christ has done. Oh, for those of us who are caught into this going to church and being very good and very religious and condemning the world around, let us be very careful that we are in Christ and in His righteousness. We have to come, individually, as a sinner to receive Him. All the Biblical training cannot make us saved; we must come to Him as a sinner. Therefore, it has to be when a holy God looks upon us, He sees those garments of the righteousness of Jesus Christ. They are very interesting - these garments. They were of one piece. There was a hole in the neck, we read in **verse 32 of Exodus 28**. This was woven so it would not tear. If you know something about making a garment, you know it is no good having it ragged around the edge, because it would quickly tear taking it on and off.

But I am reminded in **Psalms 22, verses 16 to 18** of Jesus. This is a Messianic psalm, which says -

**16 . . . they pierced my hands and my feet.**

**17 I can tell all my bones: they look and stare upon me.**

**18 They part my garments among them, and cast lots upon my vesture.** The covetous soldiers sat down before the Cross and they gambled. What were they gambling for? The one garment; this one piece, this woven piece.

It is all around Jesus and what He has done for you. Will you say *Yes!* to Him? Write and tell us. We want to spiritually help you.

*In Jesus' Name.*