



TETZAVEH - YOU SHALL COMMAND

Exodus 27:20 to 30:10
Ezekiel 43:10-27
Romans 12:1 to 13:14

Passover to Shavuot / Pentecost The Raising Of A Royal Priesthood

Part Four: Moses on Mount Sinai – The Bridal Covenant

In the last three studies, we have been with Moses on Mount Sinai receiving the Bridegroom's gift to His Bride - the Ten Wedding Vows with their principles. We learned of the Tabernacle/*Mishkan* furnishings in the last study and this study we will continue with the furnishings and also learn of the Levitical priestly garments.

Oil For The Menorah Exodus 27:20-21

Olive oil is derived from olive trees. Wild olive trees called *oleaster* grow throughout most of the Mediterranean countries and bear little fruit. Domesticated olive trees belong to the family of *olea europaea* flowering flora, of which jasmine and lilac are also members. There are hundreds of varieties of olives. The climate and soil in which the trees are grown determine whether the olives they produce will be pressed for oil or be used for eating.

The culturing of olive trees requires the patience of generations of agriculturists. The tree is green and non deciduous, with a gray trunk that appears wrinkled and knotty. Every three years the olive tree renews its leaves, which grow in pairs opposite each other down the branches and are single undivided, rather like a willow leaf, lance-shaped, shiny and leathery in appearance. An olive tree blooms in late spring with clusters of white flowers. Depending on the variety, there can be anywhere from ten to over forty flowers in a cluster, but only one in every twenty flowers will develop into an olive. Olive trees self-pollinate by the wind.

Olive trees takes twenty-five to fifty years to mature; however, begin to show fruit six to eight years after planting. This evergreen tree stands anywhere from ten to fifty feet high and will average a yield of about twenty-two pounds during a harvest. The best yields are often from mature trees exceeding two hundred and fifty years of age.

Olive trees prefer a hilly terrain and grow best at one to two thousand feet above sea level in a lime soil. These trees are small, with deep roots, thirsty, with small olives and pits, and a high content of oil particles. In early autumn and spring, the soil in the groves is plowed and weeded, and the trees pruned. Pruning is essential but labor intensive. You must thin the growth on the crown of the tree so the fruit-bearing branches can be exposed to the sun and air.

Every part of this perpetual tree is utilized. Olive trees are resilient—they do not die of neglect, need little water, and produce for decades. During the winter, a tree handpicked by shaking or beating the branches, can yield two to four pints of olive oil. Thus, the finished product is expensive. Olives produce about twenty percent of their weight to oil. Some olive trees live to be more than two thousand years old. However, the average is two hundred years.

Sons of Fresh Oil

¶ **Exodus 27:20-21** “And you shall command the children of Israel that they bring you pure oil of pressed olives for the light, *to cause the lamp to burn continually*. In the Tabernacle of meeting, outside the veil which is before the Testimony, Aaron and his sons shall tend it from evening until morning before the LORD/Yahweh. *It shall be a statute forever to their generations on behalf of the children of Israel*”(Leviticus 24:2).



Exodus 27:20-21 teaches us the priests did not originate the oil for the lampstand. It was the people who brought the oil to the priests who would then attend the menorah. If the people did not bring the oil daily, there would be no oil for the menorah. The priest's responsibility was to teach the people God's/*Elohim* principles. With that knowledge, the people responded accordingly and took the initiative to act upon what they heard. They gathered the olives and ground the oil. No one was to remind them, prod them, or ask them to do this, as they all knew it was a commandment and part of their Covenant relationship with God/*Elohim*.

Today, in fellowships, we are to teach the sheep the Word so they then can respond to what they learn. Those who act on His word produce oil. Oil is the fruit of a sheep who listens and obeys.

We see this in the parable of the Seed/the Word in Matthew 13:18-23. The seed was given to the sheep, the people. They hear it but then what happened? What was the condition of the soil, their heart? If the first response to a command is an excuse or justification, then this reply discloses a

heart that is unredeemed. Thus the first three seeds did not bear fruit. But if the sheep takes the initiative and responds with a willing heart to what they hear, then they will bear much fruit/oil.

We held fellowship meetings in our home for many years. We stopped the meetings when the people stopped bring their oil. They had not produced oil during the week, therefore, had none to bring on the Sabbath. We went over this several times with them. Read the word during the week, bring the revelations the Father gives and we all share in His Glory. They gave many excuses and reasons why they could not and then insisted and expected that I share my oil with them and that it was *my* responsibility to give it to them. Totally opposite to what the Word says. It all came to a head when the sheep continued to make excuses as to why they could not come to God's/*Elohim* appointed Fall Feast Days. That was when we finally shut the fellowship down. Upon leaving our guests gnashed their teeth and gave false testimony against us.

We know of a Messianic pastor who prepared everything for the sheep on the Sabbath. That pastor spent hours shopping, cooking, and setting everything up during the week so that a huge banquet was waiting for the sheep when they arrived. After this huge meal, the pastor would teach the sheep, and then the sheep would go home after having done nothing but gorge. That fellowship also closed, as the sheep did not have to bring their oil.

The Parable of the Ten Virgins / Believers in the End Times

▣ **Matthew 25:1-10** “Then the kingdom of heaven [*the Messianic term of God/Elohim in the flesh, Yeshua; as well as a term for the Messianic/millennial Era also known as the 7000th year, which we are in today*] shall be likened to ten virgins [*references to believers; also to the ten lost tribes of Israel returning to walk in the ways of Yeshua and thirdly to the whole House of Israel*] who took their lamps [*symbol for looking into the Word of Yahweh*], and went out to meet the bridegroom [*their Messiah*]. Now five of them were wise, and five were foolish. [*Wise represents believers walking in the principles of their Marriage Covenant given at Mount Sinai. The foolish/unwise represent believers knowing the ways of the principles but not walking faithfully after them or honoring their Marriage Covenant*]. Those who were foolish took their lamps no oil with them, but the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps.”

In the Matthew 25 Scripture above, oil is a reference to what is the result of a believer's heart, walk, and lifestyle as relates to obedience in Yeshua's commandments. Five is a reference to the five books of Moses (*Yeshua's Gospel/Torah* John 5:46-47). The five wise virgins represent believers with an adequate supply of oil - those who live by the testimony/Covenant of Moses and walk after the Spirit of Yeshua in obedience to His Word. The five unwise virgins represent believers who lack enough oil in their walk and, who over time, neglected to appropriate Yeshua's words into their heart and lifestyle. Yeshua commands His people to keep the oil in the lamp burning continuously. Acting on Yeshua's word produces the oil for the light of the Menorah. The law and the commandments on their own cannot produce oil. Therefore, there will be a lack of light. Only when Yeshua and Torah come together in a believer's heart will the oil yield the flow needed to produce light for the day and extra light for the season of His return (John 14:23-24; Psalm 119:105; Proverbs 6:23).

▣ **Zechariah 4:11-14** “Then I answered and said to him, ‘What are these two olive trees - at the right of the lampstand/*menorah* and at its left?’ And I further answered and said to him, ‘What are these two olive branches that drip into the receptacles of the two gold pipes from which the golden oil drains?’ Then he answered me and said, ‘Do you not know what these are?’ And I said, ‘No, my lord.’ So he said, ‘These are the two anointed ones [*House of Israel and the House of Judah*], who stand beside the Lord of the whole earth’” (Jeremiah 31:31-33; Hebrews 8:8-10).

▣ **Matthew 25:5** “Now while the bridegroom was delaying [*preparing a place for the bride*], all the virgins got drowsy and began to sleep.”

Sleep is about a believer having the principles/Torah but not appropriating them into their lifestyle and walk. Hence, Scripture references those who sleep. We are reminded that the Bride is to be watchful and to keep her lamp burning continually. The decorations on the lampstand/*menorah* in the Tabernacle were fashioned after the almond blossom. The word for *almond* in Hebrew shares the same spelling as its verbal root *shaqad*, which means *watchful* or *sleepless*. Thus, to keep the light of our Menorah burning continuously reminds us we are to remain active in His Word and not be found sleeping or our lamp will go out (Isaiah 56:10).

▣ **Matthew 25:6-12** “And at midnight a cry was heard [*reference to the sound the trumpet makes when proclaiming an announcement. In this parable the trumpet was used to proclaim the first sighting of the New Moon/Rosh Chodesh at the beginning of the seventh month but primarily to announce the Feast of Blowing/Yom Teruah, which falls on the first day of the seventh month. It is this Feast that declares...*] ‘Behold, the bridegroom is coming; go out to meet him!’ [On this Feast of Blowing/Yom Teruah the doors open to allow the Bride and Groom to enter] Then all those virgins [believers] arose, and trimmed their lamps [*menorahs*]. And the foolish [believers] said to the wise [believers], ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ But the wise [believers] answered, saying, ‘No, lest there should not be enough for us and you; but go rather to those who sell, and buy for yourselves.’ And while they [foolish believers] went to buy [*oil*], the bridegroom came, and those [wise believers] **who were ready went in with him to the wedding**; and the door was shut. [*Ten days later on the next feast (The Day of Atonement/Yom Kippur – the Bride’s wedding day) the doors close*] Afterward the other virgins [*unwise believers*] came also, saying, ‘Lord, Lord, open to us!’ But he answered and said, ‘Assuredly, I say to you, I do not know you.’”

▣ **Proverbs 13:9** “The light of the righteous rejoices, but the lamp of the wicked will be put out.”

▣ **Luke 13:25-28** “When once the Master of the house has risen up and shut the door, and you begin to stand outside and knock at the door, saying, ‘Lord, Lord, open for us,’ and He will answer and say to you, ‘I do not know you, where you are from,’ then you will begin to say, ‘We ate and drank in Your presence, and You taught in our streets. But He will say, I tell you I do not know you, where you are from. Depart from Me, all you workers of iniquity. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when you see Abraham

and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God/*Elohim*, and yourselves thrust out.””

- ▣ **Revelation 22:12-15** “And behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me, to give to every one according to his work. I am the Alpha [Aleph] and the Omega [Tov], the Beginning and the End, the First and the Last. *Blessed are those who do His commandments, that they may have the right to the tree of life*, and may enter through the gates into the city. But outside are dogs and sorcerers and sexually immoral and murderers and idolaters, and whoever loves and practices a lie.”
- ▣ **Psalm 51:10-12** “Create in me a clean heart, O God/*Elohim*, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me away from Your presence, and do not take Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of Your salvation, and uphold me by Your generous Spirit.”
- ▣ **Isaiah 62:1** “For Zion’s sake I will not hold My peace, and for Jerusalem’s sake I will not rest, until her righteousness goes forth as brightness, and her salvation as a lamp that burns.”

Much symbolism surfaces in reading about the olive tree. God/*Elohim* has charged *the sons of Israel*, all twelve tribes, to bring clear beaten olive oil to keep their lamps burning continuously. That responsibility also falls on those who have betrothed themselves to the Messiah. The true Bride is motivated and unwavering in her heart commitment to her Bridegroom, thus, carries the extra oil for her lamp. The foolish will try to buy their oil, but oil for these lamps cannot be purchased.

Walking in obedience to the ways of the Messiah produces oil. Knowing the difference between what is clean and holy versus what is unclean and unholy, and knowing how to worship our Bridegroom at His appointed Feast Days/*moedim* is walking in the *paths of righteousness*, the redemptive journey of the Bride. The unwise virgins are a reference to those lukewarm in their pursuit of Torah; therefore, the appointed Feasts of the King and His Sabbaths are less important or not celebrated at all. On the day the Bridegroom returns they will be ill prepared. Consequently, they will not have the oil needed for their lamps. In the context of this parable, the foolish virgins will have disqualified themselves and missed out on being the Bride at the wedding (Ezekiel 22:26; 44:23-24).

- ▣ **Revelation 3:14-22** [*Yeshua said to believers/the Bride,*] “And to the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write, ‘These things says the Amen, the Faithful and True Witness, the Beginning of the creation of God/*Elohim*: I know your works [your walk], that you are neither cold nor hot. I could wish you were cold or hot. So then, because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will vomit you out of My mouth. Because you say, ‘I am rich, have become wealthy, and have need of nothing’ - and do not know that you are wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked [*not had a heart to walk after Yeshua’s Principles prepared for the Bride nor come to His Appointed Feast Days*]- I counsel you to buy from Me gold refined in the fire, that you may be rich; and white garments, that you may be clothed, that the shame of your nakedness may not be revealed [*the priestly*

*wedding garment needed to enter the Bridal Chamber]; and anoint your eyes with eye salve, that you may see. As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten. Therefore be zealous and repent. Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears [obeys] My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him [*the Wedding Supper of the Lamb*], and he with Me. To him who overcomes I will grant to sit with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne. He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the [*ekklesia/assembly*] churches.”*

¶ **Matthew 7:24-27** “Therefore whoever hears [obeys] these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a *wise* man who built his house on the rock: and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock. But everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, and does not do them, will be like a *foolish* man who built his house on the sand: and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell. And great was its fall.”

The Priestly Garments Exodus 28

¶ **Exodus 28:1-2** “Then bring near to yourself Aaron your brother, and his sons with him, from among the sons of Israel, to minister as priest to Me - Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, Eleazar and Ithamar, Aaron’s sons. And you shall make holy garments for Aaron your brother, for glory and for beauty.”

God/*Elohim* appointed Moses’ brother Aaron and Aaron’s four sons from the Kohath clan of the Levites to minister before Him as priests. When serving in the Tabernacle/*Mishkan*, they could not to wear everyday clothing before Him. Only prescribed garments designed to set them apart would be appropriate. Aaron, acting as High Priest, carried a higher profile, as would his firstborn son after him throughout their generations. As the Tabernacle/*Mishkan* was to be made in the exact pattern of the heavenly Tabernacle, the garments of the High Priest, who represented the heavenly King on earth, were also fashioned likewise. Everything to do with the *Mishkan* was to mirror the original image. Thus, the High Priestly garments were like the King’s (Yeshua) (Hebrews 8:1-2).

¶ **Hebrews 8:1-2** “Now this is the main point of the things we are saying: We have such a High Priest, who is seated at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens, [*Yeshua*] a Minister of the sanctuary and of the true Tabernacle which the Lord erected, and not man.”

The High Priest’s clothing consisted of *eight* garments: the ephod, breastplate, robe, tunic, turban, belt, crown, and undergarments. Each piece carried a prophetic imagery of the Messiah that represented His character and attributes. Without these garments, the High Priest was not fit to serve in the Tabernacle/*Mishkan*. Thus, accuracy was essential.

The materials mentioned in the making of the High Priestly garments were gold, blue, purple and scarlet yarn and fine linen. They were the same colors and fabrics used for the veil that

divided the two sections of the Tabernacle/*Mishkan*. The only difference was a gold thread that was woven throughout the multi-colored garments of the High Priest. Gold represents a direct connection with the divine nature and ministry of Yeshua, the King. When the priest wore the garments, he was walking and serving in a heavenly dimension on the earth on behalf of the King and His Kingdom.

The five materials used in creating the priestly garments (five representing Torah: mercy and truth):

- Gold was beaten into thin sheets, then rolled and cut into a very fine thread to sew into the garments.
- Blue dye for the wool obtained from a snail known as *chilazon* found in the Mediterranean Sea.
- Red dye taken from a kermes insect also called *the crimson worm* whose home was on a cedar tree.
- Purple colored wool possibly created from the dye of the murex snail or a mixture of the blue and red dye together.
- The last material used was white linen derived from the flax plant.



The Ephod Exodus 28:6-14

The first garment described was the ephod. This garment was woven using all five materials. The style was like a short apron with two shoulder straps that wrapped around the upper part of the body. Two sardonyx stones were set in gold on the shoulder straps engraved for the remembrance of the twelve tribes, six names on one stone and six on the other.

- ▣ **Isaiah 22:22** “Then I will set the *key of the house of David on his shoulder*, when he opens no one will shut, when he shuts no one will open.”
- ▣ **Luke 1:32** “He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High; and the Lord God/*Elohim* will give Him the throne of His father David.”

The definition for *engraving* means to *cut into, mark by incisions, to carve upon a surface, to record by incised letters, to impress deeply, fix indelibly, to represent by incisions upon wood, metal, stone, etc. with the view of reproducing.*

The stones embedded in the shoulders on the ephod prophesied that all twelve tribes of Israel would act as an everlasting government on the earth. As Yeshua is our High Priest *forever*, the names of all twelve tribes are *forever engraved in stone* on His shoulders and *forever remembered as memorial stones before Him*. Just as Moses arranged the twelve stones in front of Mount Sinai during the Betrothal stage of the wedding, so our Bridegroom Yeshua carries the remembrance of the twelve stones/tribes on His shoulders *forever* (Exodus 24:4).

- ▣ **Isaiah 9:6-7** “For a child will be born to us, a son will be given to us; *and the government will rest on His shoulders*; and His name will be called Wonderful

Counselor, Mighty God/*Elohim*, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace. *There will be no end to the increase of His government* or of peace, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and righteousness from then on and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD/*Yahweh* of hosts will accomplish this.”

▣ **Hebrews 13:5** “For He Himself [*Yeshua*] has said, ‘I will never leave you nor forsake you.’”

The Breastplate Exodus 28:15-29

Again, the importance of the names of the twelve tribes is revealed in the next garment. The breastplate described was embedded with twelve precious stones inscribed with the names of all twelve tribes.

▣ **Exodus 28:21** “There are to be twelve stones, one for each of the names of the sons of Israel, each engraved like a seal with the name of one of the twelve tribes.”

The definition of seal is: *as evidence of authenticity or attestation; a token or symbol of a Covenant; something that authenticates or confirms; a final addition which completes and secures; the impression of one's signet placed upon an article as evidence of a claim to possession; a mark of ownership; an impressed mark serving as visible evidence of something.*

God's/*Elohim* pattern called for the stones to be set in gold filigree and mounted on embroidered fabric using gold, blue, purple, scarlet yarn, and fine linen. Thus the twelve tribes were not only represented on the shoulders of the High Priest's ephod but also publicly displayed on his chest. The breastplate represents *Yeshua*. It is He who carries the twelve tribes *forever* on His shoulders and openly displayed on His chest for all to see. Moreover, *Yeshua*'s breastplate represents the two witnesses of the Messiah, who will always be present in His heart and upon His shoulders. The twelve tribes serve as God's/*Elohim* government and priesthood to the Nations (Exodus 19:5-6), for, through *Yeshua* our High Priest, all authority has been given to His people (Isaiah 9:6).

▣ **Luke 9:1-2** “Then He called His twelve disciples together and gave them power and authority over all demons, and to cure diseases. He sent them to preach the kingdom of God/*Elohim* and to heal the sick.”

Ten, from the original twelve tribes, are not lost, annihilated or eradicated, as some would have us believe. All twelve are accountable, living, and known to God/*Elohim* among the nations, and openly displayed as precious stones before Him every day. Today, our High Priest *Yeshua* wears His High Priestly garments and carries all twelve tribes on His shoulders, and over His heart *continually*. If His garments were out of order, such as missing a stone or two from His breastplate or if several tribal names were erased from the stones on His shoulders in His ephod, He would immediately disqualify Himself from serving in the heavenly and earthly Tabernacle. The truth is, *the Father continues to see every tribe, all twelve, as equal and individually secure*

before Him. Therefore, no one can say that a tribe is missing or that some tribes assimilated into other tribes, as that is not the truth. If one were missing, then *Israel* would cease to exist. All twelve are present and accounted for to this day. Even if some tribes are hidden or in the wilderness for a season, the Father always knows their identity and whereabouts. That is His promise to His Bride *Israel* as witnessed in His Wedding Vow before her (Matthew 10:6; 15:24; John 18:9; Hebrews 8:1-2).

- ▣ **Exodus 28:29** “And Aaron shall carry the names of the sons of Israel in the breastplate of deliverance over his heart when he enters the holy place, *for a memorial before the LORD/Yahweh continually.*”
- ▣ **Hebrews 8:1-2** “We have such a high priest [*Yeshua*], who has taken His seat at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens, a minister in the sanctuary, and in the true Tabernacle, which the Lord pitched, not man.”
- ▣ **Revelation 21:12-13** “Also she had a great and high wall with twelve gates, and twelve angels at the gates, and names written on them, which are the names of the twelve tribes of the children of Israel: three gates on the east, three gates on the north, three gates on the south, and three gates on the west.”

The Urim and The Thummim Exodus 28:30

After describing the breastplate, God/*Elohim* then shared about the Urim (*lights*) and the Thummim (*perfection*), stones that have the ability to serve as God’s/*Elohim* mouthpiece and to help declare right rulings (*mishpat*) for His people. The vital role these stones held in times past can be equated with the guidance of the Holy Spirit/*Ruach HaKodesh* in believer’s hearts today (Exodus 28:30; 1 Peter 1:9-13).

The placement of these two stones in front of the heart represents a witness to the unified cohesiveness of the God’s/*Elohim* word (Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy), as His Word gives Light. His Light became flesh and dwelt among us – *Yeshua*, and His Word is the Rock of Israel (2 Samuel 23:3; Psalm 119:105; John 1:1,14).

David, after he was anointed King during Saul’s reign, leaned on his staff, reached into his pouch and defeated Goliath with one of the five smooth stones (1 Samuel 17:40). There is only One Stone of Enquiry – *Yeshua Ha Mashiach* – the Holy One of Israel (Genesis 49:24; John 9:5; John 1:1-5, 14; 1 Samuel 17:40; Isaiah 8:14; 1 Peter 2:5-7).

- ▣ **Deuteronomy 33:8** “And of Levi he said: ‘Let Your Thummim and Your Urim be with Your holy one, whom You tested at Massah, and with whom You contended at the waters of Meribah’”
- ▣ **Ezekiel 36:26-27** “Moreover, I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; and I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will be careful to observe My ordinances.”

- ▣ **1 Peter 2:5** “you also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God/*Elohim* through Jesus Christ/*Yeshua Ha Mashiach*” (Ezekiel 11:19-20; Jeremiah 31:33).

All Twelve Tribes

God’s/*Elohim* people and those who see themselves as part of Israel, are also called to uphold and proclaim the message of *all twelve identifiable tribes united in heart (joint heirs) and walking as one in Yeshua*. His people are called to be His light to the nations/tribes for the restoration of the *whole* House of David. If believers are of a royal priesthood in Yeshua, they too will walk in His image, carrying all twelve stones engraved in Hebrew letters, on their shoulders, and in their hearts. Thus, this witness will continually reflect His truth to all, through all generations. However, those who refuse to acknowledge the existence of all twelve tribes are not wearing a priestly garment nor are they in proper order. Thus, they cannot proclaim the redemption of *all Israel*. Therefore, they deny the truth held within His Gospel, which is the foundation of their Marriage Covenant (Exodus 19:5-6; 1 Peter 2:9; Matthew 19:28; Luke 22:30; Acts 1:6; Acts 26:7; Romans 11; James 1:1).



- ▣ **Zechariah 13:1-2** “*In that day* a fountain shall be opened for the house of David and for the inhabitants of Jerusalem, for sin and for uncleanness. It shall be *in that day*, says the LORD/*Yahweh* of hosts, that I will cut off the names of the idols from the land, and they shall no longer be remembered. I will also cause the prophets and the unclean spirit to depart from the land.”
- ▣ **Acts 1:6** “Therefore, when they [*the believers/disciples*] had come together, they asked Yeshua, saying, ‘Lord, will You at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?’ [Kingdom is reference to all twelve tribes as His Kingdom is made up of the twelve tribes of Israel – called the restoration of the House of David (Davidic Covenant/order of Melchizedek)] (Revelation 21:12). ”
- ▣ **2 Corinthians 3:3** “You show that you are *a letter from Yeshua*, the result of our ministry, written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God/*Elohim*, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts.”

The Robe of The Ephod

Exodus 28:31-35

Next, God/*Elohim* instructed Moses to make the robe of the ephod entirely of blue cloth. Blue references the heavenly side of Yeshua. The hem of the robe had pomegranates made of blue, purple, and scarlet yarn adorning the hem along with gold bells placed alternately between the bells. The gold in the bells was to defuse any electrical buildup so the priest would always be grounded and not die when he entered the Holy Place to serve before God/*Elohim* (Exodus 28:35).

▣ **Psalm 89:14-15** “Righteousness and justice *are* the foundation of Your throne; Mercy and truth go before Your face. Blessed *are* the people who know the joyful sound! They walk, O LORD/*Yahweh*, in the light of Your countenance.”

The Pomegranates

Tradition says that the pomegranate fruit has 613 seeds representing the 613 principles held in the Ten Wedding Vows that proclaim God’s/*Elohim* Kingdom on the earth for His Bride. The seeds are encased in twelve sections within the fruit, representing the twelve tribes encamped around the Tabernacle. The pomegranate is full of white, pearl-like seeds in a red fluid that represent the sweet, purifying redemptive work of the blood of the Lamb, Yeshua, and that in His fruitfulness, each and every principle given to the Bride is like nectar, sweet to her soul.

Subsequently, the pomegranates can represent the *House of Judah*, the keepers of the good news of Torah, called *the Gospel*, while the bells can represent the *House of Israel*, keepers of the good news of *Messiah*. When the two houses come together in unity, they make a beautiful sound. If you only have bells without pomegranates (*Torah*), Paul said you are likened to a clanging cymbal. If you have only pomegranates (*have only the Torah*) without the bells (*no Messiah*), then it is as if you are walking with no sound/voice, for Torah without Messiah is lifeless/dead. Therefore, the pomegranates and bells work together to make a beautiful sound!

The Pure Gold Plate Exodus 28:36-38

▣ **Exodus 28:36-38** “You shall also make a plate of pure gold and engrave on it, *like* the engraving of a signet: HOLINESS TO THE LORD קָדְשׁוּ לֵאלֹהִים And you shall put it on a blue cord, that it may be on the turban; it shall be on the front of the turban. So it shall be on Aaron’s forehead, that Aaron may bear the iniquity of the holy things which the children of Israel hallow in all their holy gifts; and it shall always be on his forehead, that they may be accepted before the LORD/*Yahweh*.”

The blue cord helped rest the engraved gold plate next to the forehead the High Priest’s forehead and keep the turban in place. *Plate* in Hebrew is H6731 צִיְּתָס meaning *bloom or blossom*. The function of the blossom is to produce the fruit of the tree. H6731 shares the same Hebrew root with H6734 tsiytsith (tzitzit) or tassel that was made of twisted yarn and tied to the four corners of the garment. The plate signifies the heavenly connection. When God’s/*Elohim* people are mindful of the Bridegroom’s ways, their heart will bear fruit in His likeness (Deuteronomy 22:12; Matthew 9:20; 14:36; 23:5).



▣ **Numbers 15:38-41** “Speak to the children of Israel: Tell them to make tassels on the corners of their garments throughout their generations, and to put a blue thread in the tassels of the corners. And you shall have the tassel/tzitzit [H6734 צִצְׂתִּי], that you may look upon it and remember all the commandments of the LORD and do them, and that you *may* not follow the harlotry to which your own heart and your own eyes are inclined,

and that you may remember and do all My commandments, and be holy for your God. I *am* the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, to be your God: I *am* the LORD your God.”

¶ **Philippians 4:8-9** “Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy - meditate on these things. The things which you learned and received and heard and saw in me, *these do*, and the God/*Elohim* of peace will be with you.”

The White Robe

Exodus 28:39-41

The robe, the turban, and the sash are all made of fine white linen. These represent the righteous acts of the saints and are called the *wedding garments of the Bride*.

¶ **Revelation 7:9** “After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude, which no one could count, from every nation and all tribes and peoples and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, *clothed in white robes*, and palm branches were in their hands.”

When the white linen garments are too worn for use, they were recycled for other purposes, such as *wicks* for the menorah in the temple or *swaddling clothes* for the newborn (Luke 2:12). When the High Priest’s colorful garments were beyond use, they were not recycled but buried in a holy place.

Consecration of the Priests

Exodus 29

Once Moses received the pattern for the garments, instructions were given on how to consecrate priests who came before God/*Elohim* to serve Him *in* the Tabernacle/*Mishkan*. Many believers serve Him in the outer court *before* the Tabernacle, but few have actually consecrated themselves to serve *inside* the Tabernacle. Having an understanding of Tabernacle protocol is vital for believers who are walking in Yeshua in these last days. The approach to the inner chamber of the Tabernacle (the Bridal Chamber) has not changed and is the same as it was in the days of Moses. It will always be through *holiness*. Today, the Bride has been redeemed that he or she might walk before Him in holiness. Yeshua has shown us the way and is directing our path. All has been appropriated and made ready and now it is up to the Bride to apply His Righteousness to their redemption and walk in it.

¶ **2 Corinthians 6:16-7:1** “For we are the temple of the living God/*Elohim*; just as God/*Elohim* said, ‘I will dwell in them and walk among them; and I will be their God/*Elohim*, and they shall be My people.’ Therefore [Bride], ‘come out from their [common] midst and be separate [holy], says the Lord. And do not touch what is unclean; and I will welcome you. And I will be a father to you, and you shall be sons and daughters to Me, says the LORD/Yahweh Almighty. Therefore, having these promises,

beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all defilement of flesh and spirit [*all that is in opposition to His Word/Wedding Covenant*], perfecting holiness in the fear of God/*Elohim*.”

The Prophetic Priestly Garments of Yeshua

Ephesians 6:10-17

Are the priestly garments taught in the New Testament/*Brit Chadasha* and are we to follow them today? Paul taught much about what a believers' attitude and lifestyle should be. Man's tradition says that in the book of Ephesians, Paul taught that our walk should look like a Roman soldier decked out in full armored regalia ready for war. Why would Paul, a Pharisee, want believers to mirror a Roman soldier? Have we misinterpreted this Scripture? If we look a little closer to what Paul wrote in Ephesians 6, we find he was quoting from the Torah, instructing the Bride how to serve in Yeshua's priesthood. Paul taught what was appropriate to wear, how to put the garments on, and what they were used for, as believers are in a *spiritual* fight, not a *physical* battle.

▣ **Ephesians 6:12** “For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual *hosts* of wickedness in the heavenly *places*.”

If believers understand how to uphold Yeshua's principles, that understanding will defeat the enemy on a *physical* level. To help us understand Yeshua's priesthood, Paul quoted the prophet, Isaiah. Remember, Isaiah never saw a Roman soldier in his life. With that preface, we look at Paul's teaching on the priestly garments from the understanding that the armor described here denotes God's/*Elohim* priestly calling through the eyes of the prophet Isaiah.

▣ **Ephesians 6:10-17** Paul said, “Finally, my brethren [*Bride*], be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. Put on the whole armor of God/*Elohim*, [*the priestly garments/principles of Torah*] that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual *hosts* of wickedness in the heavenly *places*. Therefore take up the whole armor of God/*Elohim*, [*the priestly calling and understanding of God's/Elohim principles to rightly interpret the word/Torah*], that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.”

“Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth [*Isaiah 11:5* ‘righteousness will be the belt about His loins, and faithfulness [in God's/*Elohim* faithfulness] the belt about His waist’], having put on the breastplate of righteousness [*Isaiah 59:17* ‘He put on righteousness like a breastplate’], and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace [*Isaiah 52:7* ‘How lovely on the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news (the Gospel), who announces peace and brings good news of happiness, who announces salvation, and says to Zion, “Your God reigns!”’].

“Above all, taking the shield of faith [*not your own faithfulness, but a belief in Yeshua's faithfulness to the Marriage Covenant He made with His Bride*] with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one. [*I Thessalonians 5:8* ‘But since we belong to the day, let us be self-controlled, putting on faith (His

faithfulness/walk in agreement with His covenant to His bride) and love (Yeshua defines love as obedience to His Wedding Vows/His Word) as a breastplate.’] And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God/Elohim; [Isaiah 59:17 ‘A helmet of salvation [was] on His head; and He put on garments of vengeance for clothing, and wrapped Himself with zeal as a mantle.’] [1 Thessalonians 5:8 ‘And He has made My mouth like a sharp sword; in the shadow of His hand He has concealed Me, and He has also made Me a select arrow; He has hidden Me in His quiver’” (Isaiah 49:2)]. (Hebrews 4:12; Revelation 1:16; Matthew 4:4; Revelation 12:11)

The Ministry of the Priestly Garments

1 Samuel 17:37-51

The prophet Samuel anointed David, the youngest son of Jesse, King. His brothers mocked him, just as Joseph’s brothers had. One day his father asked David to deliver food to his brothers who were fighting against the Philistines in Saul’s army. The Israelites were greatly afraid of this army, especially Goliath, a giant warrior dressed in full armor, who continually mocked the God/Elohim of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. When David arrived, he assessed the situation.

▣ **1 Samuel 17:26** “Then David spoke to the men who stood by him, saying, ‘What shall be done for the man who kills this Philistine and takes away the reproach from Israel? For who is this uncircumcised Philistine, that he should defy the armies of the living God/Elohim?’”

When Saul heard of David’s inquiry, he sent for him.

▣ **1 Samuel 17:38** “So Saul clothed David with his armor, and he put a bronze helmet on his head; he also clothed him with a coat of mail.”

Saul tried to make David look like all the other warriors who depended on an *external physical armor* for protection. When they dressed David in this armor, he felt so awkward he could not walk. Thus, removed the armor, as he had no need of it (1 Samuel 17:39).

David was a shepherd. He spent time in the Word and had intimate knowledge and wisdom of how to walk in agreement with its power and authority. Therefore, David had no need of man’s armor. It was a false garment to him. David assured Saul, “*The LORD/Yahweh, who delivered me from the paw of the lion and from the paw of the bear, He will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine.*” Saul agreed to this and blessed him (1 Samuel 17:37).

▣ **1 Samuel 17:39-40** “So David took them off [*took the armor off*]. Then he took his staff in his hand; and he chose for himself five smooth stones [*Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy*] from the brook [*living water*], and put them in a shepherd’s bag, in a pouch which he had [*reference to the ephod and Urim and the Thummim on the priestly garment*], and his sling was in his hand.”

The Philistine took one look at David standing in only his shepherd’s clothing and cursed him.

▣ **1 Samuel 17: 45-47** Then David said to the Philistine, “You come to me with a sword, with a spear, and with a javelin. But I come to you in the name of the LORD/*Yahweh* of hosts, the God/*Elohim* of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied. This day the LORD/*Yahweh* will deliver you into my hand, and I will strike you and take your head from you. And this day I will give the carcasses of the camp of the Philistines to the birds of the air and the wild beasts of the earth, that all the earth may know that there is a God/*Elohim* in Israel. Then all this assembly shall know that the LORD/*Yahweh* does not save with sword and spear; for the battle is the LORD’s/*Yahweh*, and He will give you into our hands.”

▣ **1 Samuel 17:49-50** “Then David put his hand in his bag and took out a stone [*Leviticus*]; and he slung *it* and struck the Philistine in his forehead, so that the stone sank into his forehead, and he fell on his face to the earth. So David prevailed over the Philistine with a sling and a stone, and struck the Philistine and killed him. But *there was no sword* in the hand of David.”

The Altar of Incense Exodus 30:1-10

The Altar of Incense is listed last, as we cannot approach this Altar if our hearts are not entirely in agreement with God’s/*Elohim* Wedding Vows. Remember, the Altar of Incense was located *inside* the Tabernacle, *before* the veil, therefore, can only be approached by a Levite (*Kohath*) priest. No other was allowed to approach. The Altar of Incense will not function within a believer until they walk in the mindset of the priesthood - *holiness*. Thus, the description of the Altar is given *after* the instructions for the Tabernacle furnishings *and after* the garments for the priesthood.

- ▣ **Matthew 6:33** “But seek first the kingdom of God/*Elohim* and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you” (Deuteronomy 6:5; Mark 12:29).
- ▣ **Luke 11:9-10** “So I say to you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened.”
- ▣ **Romans 13:12-14** “The night is almost gone, and the day is at hand. Let us therefore lay aside the deeds of darkness *and put on the armor of light* [*Yeshua’s priestly garments*]. Let us *behave properly* [*in holiness*] as in the day, not in carousing and drunkenness, not in sexual promiscuity and sensuality, not in strife and jealousy. But *put on Yeshua the Messiah, and make no provision for the flesh in regard to its lusts.*”

To be continued...

**Shabbat Shalom
Julie Parker**

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