

Exodus 28:2

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And thou shalt make holy garments for Aaron thy brother for glory and for beauty.

Analysis

Holy garments for Aaron 'for glory and for beauty' (לְכָבוֹד וּלְתִפְעָרֶת, l'kavod ul'tiferet). The priest represents God to the people and people to God; his appearance must reflect both roles. The garments don't make him holy (consecration does that) but display his holy status. 'Glory' suggests weight, honor, majesty—God's character. 'Beauty' suggests attractiveness, desirability—God's appeal. Christ our High Priest displays both God's glory and beauty, making God both awesome and attractive.

Historical Context

The high priest's elaborate garments distinguished him from common priests (who wore simpler linen) and from the people. These garments were worn only during tabernacle service, then carefully stored, emphasizing the separation between sacred and common life.

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Study Questions

1. How does Christ display both God's 'glory' (majesty) and 'beauty' (attractiveness)?
2. What 'priestly garments' (spiritual realities) should characterize believers as Christ's priests?

Interlinear Text

וַעֲשֵׂה יְתָ	בְּגָדֵי	קֹדֶשׁ	לְאַהֲרֹן	אָחִי יְרֵ	לְכָבוֹד
And thou shalt make	garments	holy	for Aaron	thy brother	for glory
H6213	H899	H6944	H175	H251	H3519
וּלְתִפְאֶרֶת:					
and for beauty					
H8597					

Additional Cross-References

Exodus 31:10 (Holy): And the cloths of service, and the holy garments for Aaron the priest, and the garments of his sons, to minister in the priest's office,

Leviticus 8:30 (Holy): And Moses took of the anointing oil, and of the blood which was upon the altar, and sprinkled it upon Aaron, and upon his garments, and upon his sons, and upon his sons' garments with him; and sanctified Aaron, and his garments, and his sons, and his sons' garments with him.

Revelation 19:8 (Holy): And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints.

Hebrews 7:26 (Holy): For such an high priest became us, who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and made higher than the heavens;

Job 40:10 (Glory): Deck thyself now with majesty and excellency; and array thyself with glory and beauty.

Exodus 28:40 (Glory): And for Aaron's sons thou shalt make coats, and thou shalt make for them girdles, and bonnets shalt thou make for them, for glory and for beauty.

Revelation 5:10 (Parallel theme): And hast made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth.

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