

Exodus 28:42

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And thou shalt make them linen breeches to cover their nakedness; from the loins even unto the thighs they shall reach:

Analysis

Linen breeches (undergarments) 'to cover their nakedness; from the loins even unto the thighs.' Even hidden parts must be covered—no nakedness before God. Since the Fall, nakedness represents shame (Genesis 3:7). These linen undergarments picture how Christ's righteousness covers even our most private sins, our hidden shame. Nothing is exposed before God when clothed in Christ. The linen extends 'from loins to thighs'—reproductive/generative capacity is covered, suggesting that even our ability to produce (works) comes from grace-covering.

Historical Context

These undergarments (מִקְנֵסִי־בָּד, mikhnesey-bad) were required for priests serving at the altar or entering the tabernacle. The specific coverage area ensured total modesty—nakedness in God's presence was absolutely forbidden and would result in death.

Related Passages

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

1. How does Christ's righteousness cover not only public sins but private, hidden shame?
2. What does covering 'from loins to thighs' teach about grace covering our ability to produce works?

Interlinear Text

וְעַשְׂתָּה	לְבָגְדָּה	מִכְתָּסִים	לְבָגְדָּה	בְּדַבְרֵךְ	לְכַסֵּת	וְעַתָּה	בְּשָׂרֶב
And thou shalt make		breeches	linen	to cover		their nakedness	
H6213	H4370	H906	H3680			H1320	

מִמְּתָנָה	עַד	מִמְּתָנָה	עַד	עַד	וְעַתָּה	מִמְּתָנָה
from the loins		unto the thighs				
H6172	H4975	H5704	H3409			H1961

Additional Cross-References

Ezekiel 44:18 (Parallel theme): They shall have linen bonnets upon their heads, and shall have linen breeches upon their loins; they shall not gird themselves with any thing that causeth sweat.

Leviticus 16:4 (Parallel theme): He shall put on the holy linen coat, and he shall have the linen breeches upon his flesh, and shall be girded with a linen girdle, and with the linen mitre shall he be attired: these are holy garments; therefore shall he wash his flesh in water, and so put them on.

Leviticus 6:10 (Parallel theme): And the priest shall put on his linen garment, and his linen breeches shall he put upon his flesh, and take up the ashes which the fire hath consumed with the burnt offering on the altar, and he shall put them beside the altar.

Exodus 39:28 (Parallel theme): And a mitre of fine linen, and goodly bonnets of fine linen, and linen breeches of fine twined linen,

