Exodus 39:28

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

> And a mitre of fine linen, and goodly bonnets of fine linen, and
> linen breeches of fine twined linen,

Analysis

The mitre (מִצְנֶפֶת, mitsnefet, turban) for Aaron, bonnets (מִגְבָּעוֹת, migba'ot, caps) for
his sons, and linen breeches (מִכְנְסֵי־בָד, michnesei-vad) for modesty complete the
priestly wardrobe. The head coverings distinguish office (Aaron's elaborate mitre
vs. sons' simpler caps) while the linen breeches ensure modesty in God's presence
(Exodus 28:42-43). The emphasis on covering (head to loins) teaches that
approaching God requires complete, proper attire—not casual or careless. Christ,
perfectly clothed in righteousness, grants believers proper covering for divine
presence.

Historical Context

The linen breeches, worn underneath outer garments, prevented any exposure
during ministry, especially when ascending altar steps. This modesty requirement
(contrast with pagan worship's sometimes lewd practices) emphasized YHWH's
holiness and the reverence due Him. The priests' complete covering, head to loins,
visually communicated holiness.

Related Passages

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Study Questions

1. How does the requirement for complete covering (head to loins) teach reverence in approaching God?
2. What does Christ clothing believers in His righteousness reveal about grace enabling holy access?

Interlinear Text

וְאֶת	פְּאֵ הַמִּצְנֶ פֶת	שֵׁ שׁ	וְאֶת	פָּאֲרֵ י	הַמִּגְבָּעֹ ת	שֵׁ שׁ	וְאֶת
H853	**And a mitre**	**linen**	H853	**and goodly**	**bonnets**	**linen**	H853
	H4701	H8336		H6287	H4021	H8336	

מִכְנְסֵ י	הַבָּ ד	שֵׁ שׁ	מָשְׁזָר:
breeches	**and linen**	**linen**	**of fine twined**
H4370	H906	H8336	H7806

Additional Cross-References

Exodus 28:4 (Parallel theme): And these are the garments which they shall make; 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, that he may minister unto me in the priest's office.