

Exodus 28

Verses 1-5

“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. ² You shall make holy garments for Aaron your brother, for glory and for beauty. ³ You shall speak to all the skillful persons whom I have endowed with the spirit of wisdom, that they make Aaron’s garments to consecrate him, that he may minister as priest to Me. ⁴ These are the garments which they shall make: a breastpiece and an ephod and a robe and a tunic of checkered work, a turban and a sash, and they shall make holy garments for Aaron your brother and his sons, that he may minister as priest to Me. ⁵ They shall take the gold and the blue and the purple and the scarlet *material* and the fine linen.

Bring Aaron and his sons to minister as priest to me

With the establishment of the Tabernacle, came a need for the priesthood

The Tabernacle became the one place to offer their sacrifices

Nadab and Abihu, Eleazar and Ithamar,

Aaron had 4 sons but the priestly line will continued thru Eleazar and Ithamar because Nadab and Abihu will be put to death by the Lord for their sin.

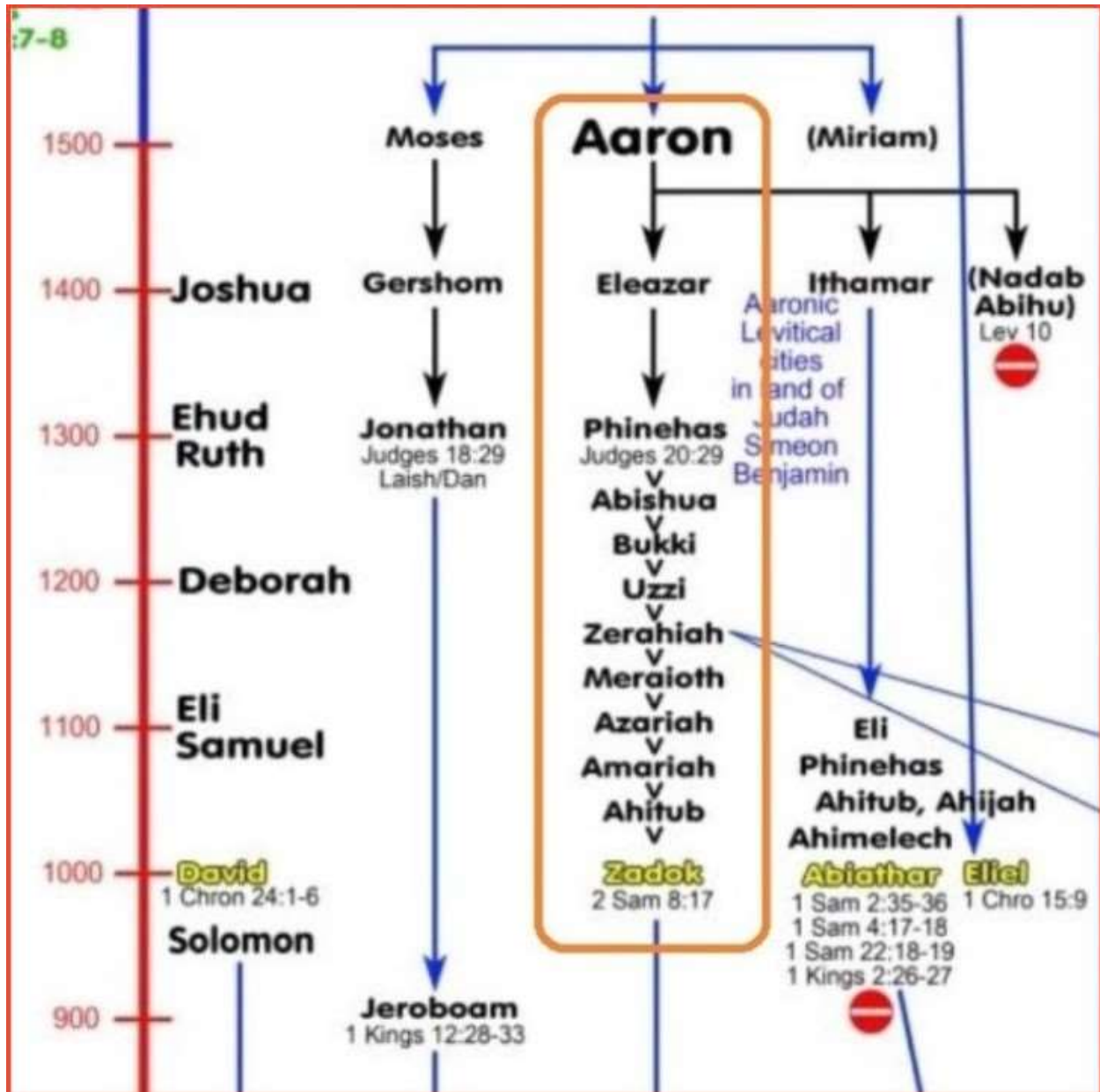
See pic 2805

Nadab and Abihu

Day	Event	Scripture
1 - 7	7 days of Ordination	See Lev. 8:33
8	The first day of their ministry	See Lev 9:1
8	The Lord puts them to death	See Lev 10:1-2

Eleazar and his descendants will succeed Aaron as High Priest

See Pics 2810 Line of Aaron



During the time of David there were two high priests.

This happened because the Ark was separated from the Tabernacle and there was a High Priest at both sites.

Verses 6-14

The Ephod

“They shall also make the ephod of gold, of blue and purple *and* scarlet *material* and fine twisted linen, the work of the skillful workman. ⁷ It shall have two shoulder pieces joined to its two ends, that it may be joined. ⁸ The skillfully woven band, which is on it, shall be like its workmanship, of the same material: of gold, of blue and purple and scarlet *material* and fine twisted linen. ⁹ You shall take two onyx stones and engrave on them the names of the sons of Israel, ¹⁰ six of their names on the one stone and the names of the remaining six on the other stone, according to their birth. ¹¹ As a jeweler engraves a signet, you shall engrave the two stones according to the names of the sons of Israel; you shall set them in filigree *settings* of gold. ¹² You shall put the two stones on the shoulder pieces of the ephod, as stones of memorial for the sons of Israel, and Aaron shall bear their names before the Lord on his two shoulders for a memorial. ¹³ You shall make filigree *settings* of gold, ¹⁴ and two chains of pure gold; you shall make them of twisted cordage work, and you shall put the corded chains on the filigree *settings*.

They shall also make the ephod

See Pic 2815



The ephod was worn by The High Priest and fit like an apron over the Robe

You shall take two onyx stones and engrave on them the names of the sons of Israel

See Pic 2820 Onyx stone



The High Priest was a representative of all Israel so all the tribes names were written on these two stones according to the order of their birth.

You shall put the two stones on the shoulder pieces of the ephod

The onyx stone represented the tribe of Ephraim

See pic 2825 Tribe of Ephraim



The Tabernacle will be in Shiloh (town of Ephraim) for over 300 years.

¹⁵ “You shall make a breastpiece of judgment, the work of a skillful workman; like the work of the ephod you shall make it: of gold, of blue and purple and scarlet *material* and fine twisted linen you shall make it. ¹⁶ It shall be square *and* folded double, a span in length and a span in width. ¹⁷ You shall mount on it four rows of stones; the first row *shall be* a row of ruby, topaz and emerald; ¹⁸ and the second row a turquoise, a sapphire and a diamond; ¹⁹ and the third row a jacinth, an agate and an amethyst; ²⁰ and the fourth row a beryl and an onyx and a jasper; they shall be set in gold filigree. ²¹ The stones shall be according to the names of the sons of Israel: twelve, according to their names; they shall be *like* the engravings of a seal, each according to his name for the twelve tribes. ²² You shall make on the breastpiece chains of twisted cordage work in pure gold. ²³ You shall make on the breastpiece two rings of gold, and shall put the two rings on the two ends of the breastpiece. ²⁴ You shall put the two cords of gold on the two rings at the ends of the breastpiece. ²⁵ You shall put the *other* two ends of the two cords on the two filigree *settings*, and put them on the shoulder pieces of the ephod, at the front of it. ²⁶ You shall make two rings of gold and shall place them on the two ends of the breastpiece, on the edge of it, which is toward the inner side of the ephod. ²⁷ You shall make two rings of gold and put them on the bottom of the two shoulder pieces of the ephod, on the front of it close to the place where it is joined, above the skillfully woven band of the ephod. ²⁸ They shall bind the breastpiece by its rings to the rings of the ephod with a blue cord, so that it will be on the skillfully woven band of the ephod, and that the breastpiece will not come loose from the ephod. ²⁹ Aaron shall carry the names of the sons of Israel in the breastpiece of judgment over his heart when he enters the holy place, for a memorial before the Lord continually. ³⁰ You shall put in the breastpiece of judgment the Urim and the Thummim, and they shall be over Aaron’s heart when he goes in before the Lord; and Aaron shall carry the judgment of the sons of Israel over his heart before the Lord continually.

You shall make a breastpiece of judgment

Some versions use the term Breastplate meaning a piece of armor that fits over the chest, but this is clearly an ornament that covers the heart of the High Priest

The breastpiece fit on top of the ephod and the 12 stones represented the 12 tribes of Israel.

See pic 2830

Take two onyx stones and engrave on them the names of the sons of Israel in the order of their birth—six names on one stone and the remaining six on the other. Engrave the names of the sons of Israel on the two stones the way a gem cutter engraves a seal. Then mount the stones in gold filigree settings and fasten them on the shoulder pieces of the ephod as memorial stones for the sons of Israel. Aaron is to bear the names on his shoulders as a memorial before the LORD.

- Exodus 28:2-5



Tunic

Breastpiece

You shall mount on it four rows of stones

See pic 2835

1  Sardius Reuben	2  Topaz Simeon	3  Carbuncle Levi
4  Emerald Judah	5  Sapphire Issachar	6  Diamond Zebulun
7  Ligure Nephtali	8  Agate Gad	9  Amethyst Asher
10  Beryl Manassah	11  Onyx Ephram	12  Jasper Benjamin

You shall put in the breastpiece of judgment the Urim and the Thummim

The Urim and Thummin were in the pouch of the breastpiece.

See pic 2840



The word judgment here refers to making decisions, as they were used to determine God's will on important matters

The High Priest could ask yes or no questions and then pick a stone from the pouch.

We don't know for sure how often this was used but the result was seen as an answer from God.

David called for the Urim and Thummim several times

See 1 Samuel 23:9

See 1 Samuel 30:7

However, God did not answer Saul when he used them.

See 1 Samuel 28:6

Verses 31-35

The Robe

³¹ “You shall make the robe of the ephod all of blue. ³² There shall be an opening at its top in the middle of it; around its opening there shall be a binding of woven work, like the opening of a coat of mail, so that it will not be torn. ³³ You shall make on its hem pomegranates of blue and purple and scarlet *material*, all around on its hem, and bells of gold between them all around: ³⁴ a golden bell and a pomegranate, a golden bell and a pomegranate, all around on the hem of the robe. ³⁵ It shall be on Aaron when he ministers; and its tinkling shall be heard when he enters and leaves the holy place before the Lord, so that he will not die.

You shall make the robe of the ephod all of blue

See Pic 2845

The Robe



This robe was seamless, woven in one piece

It had openings for the head and arms

You shall make on its hem pomegranates of blue and purple and scarlet *material*, all around on its hem, and bells of gold between them all around

The High Priest stood out among the other priests because of his beautiful robe and the detailed decorations.

Verses 36-39

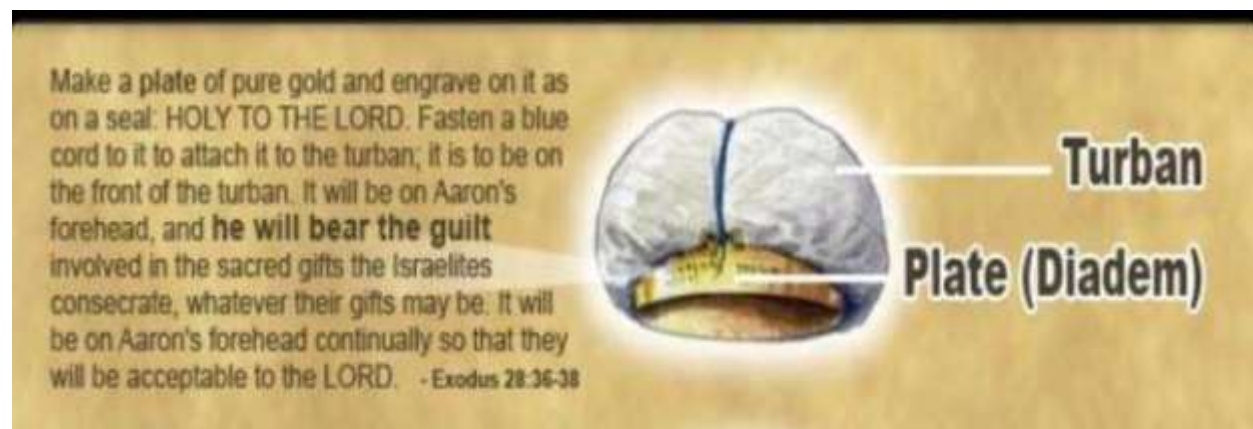
The Plate, Turban, Tunic and Sash

³⁶ “You shall also make a plate of pure gold and shall engrave on it, like the engravings of a seal, ‘Holy to the Lord.’ ³⁷ You shall fasten it on a blue cord, and it shall be on the turban; it shall be at the front of the turban. ³⁸ It shall be on Aaron’s forehead, and Aaron shall take away the iniquity of the holy things which the sons of Israel consecrate, with regard to all their holy gifts; and it shall always be on his forehead, that they may be accepted before the Lord. ³⁹ “You shall weave the tunic of checkered work of fine linen, and shall make a turban of fine linen, and you shall make a sash, the work of a weaver.

You shall also make a plate of pure gold and engrave on it, Holy to the Lord.

It shall be at the front of the turban on Aaron’s forehead

See Pic 2850 Plate and Turban



You shall weave the tunic of checkered work of fine linen

See Pic 2855



The Tunic was all white and had a checkered look to it.

And you shall make a sash (belt)

A cloth belt around the waist

Verses 40-43

Tunic, sashes, caps and linen breeches

⁴⁰ “For Aaron’s sons you shall make tunics; you shall also make sashes for them, and you shall make caps for them, for glory and for beauty. ⁴¹ You shall put them on Aaron your brother and on his sons with him; and you shall anoint them and ordain them and consecrate them, that they may serve Me as priests. ⁴² You shall make for them linen breeches to cover *their* bare flesh; they shall reach from the loins even to the thighs. ⁴³ They shall be on Aaron and on his sons when they enter the tent of meeting, or when they approach the altar to minister in the holy place, so that they do not incur guilt and die. It *shall be* a statute forever to him and to his descendants after him.

You shall make for them linen breeches to cover *their* bare flesh; they shall reach from the loins even to the thighs.

King David was not a priest but he should have been wearing these when he danced before the Ark

See 2 Samuel 6:14-22

The High Priest was not commanded to wear the white linen breeches except when he went into the Holy of Holies.

See Leviticus 16:4

You shall anoint them and ordain them and consecrate them, that they may serve Me as priests

This will be covered in the next chapter

For Aaron's sons you shall make tunics, sashes, and caps

All the regular priests wore white linen.

See pic 2865

