

THE HIGH PRIEST'S BREASTPLATE: GOD'S SPEAKING-PLACE

ANCHOR SCRIPTURE:

Exodus 28:15 (NKJV)

“You shall make the breastplate of judgment. Artistically woven according to the workmanship of the ephod you shall make it: of gold, blue, purple, and scarlet thread, and fine woven linen, you shall make it.”

Exodus 28:29 (NKJV)

“So Aaron shall bear the names of the sons of Israel on the breastplate of judgment over his heart, when he goes into the holy place, as a memorial before the LORD continually.”

Exodus 28:30 (NKJV)

“And you shall put in the breastplate of judgment the Urim and the Thummim... So Aaron shall bear the judgment of the children of Israel over his heart before the LORD continually.”

Core truth:

The breastplate was not decoration. It was **God's authorized speaking-place**, where divine decisions were rendered for the people of God.

WHY THE BREASTPLATE MATTERED

1. It was designed by God, not man

Exodus 28:15–20 (NKJV) details the exact materials, structure, and stones. Revelation is never improvised.

2. It carried names over the heart

God speaks covenantally, not impersonally.

3. It housed the Urim and Thummim - Divine inquiry, divine clarity, divine determination.

- The breastplate was of great importance because by means of it, God revealed his Divine will to His chosen people.
- It was designed by God Himself and the directions as to how it was to be made were given to Moses as illustrated in **Exodus 28:15, 20.**

The King James Authorized Version of the Bible (1769) translated the Hebrew word "chosen" as breastplate, but this obscures some of its meaning.

In the Septuagint it is written by the Greek word "logeion," which means a speaking-place.

This describes exactly what the breastplate really was--the oracle or means by which God spoke to, i.e., answered the inquires of the high priest.

God never speaks randomly. He speaks responsibly.

THE TWELVE STONES AND THE TWELVE TRIBES

Exodus 28:21 (NKJV)

“And the stones shall have the names of the sons of Israel, twelve according to their names...”

WHERE DOES THE IDEA COME FROM THAT EACH TRIBE HAD A REPRESENTATIVE STONE?

The Concept Comes Directly From Scripture

The Bible explicitly states that **each stone bore the name of a tribe**. That is not tradition. That is text.

Exodus 28:21 (NKJV)

“And the stones shall have the names of the sons of Israel, twelve according to their names, like the engravings of a signet, each one with its own name; they shall be according to the twelve tribes.”

This verse establishes **three indisputable facts**:

1. There were **twelve stones**
2. Each stone had **one tribal name engraved**
3. The stones collectively represented **all twelve tribes**

This is the origin of the concept, but Scripture Does NOT Assign Which Stone Equals Which Tribe

Primary historical sources

1. **Second Temple Jewish tradition**
2. **Rabbinic writings (Talmud, Midrash)**
3. **Josephus (1st century Jewish historian)**
4. **Later medieval commentators**

These sources attempt to **harmonize**:

- The stone order in Exodus 28
- The birth order of the tribes
- The camp arrangement in Numbers 2

The breastplate represents: (put on one slide)

- **Covenant completeness**
- **Governmental authority**
- **God speaking to His people through priesthood**

SATAN'S COUNTERFEIT BREASTPLATE

Ezekiel 28:12–13 (NKJV)

“You were the seal of perfection... You were in Eden, the garden of God; Every precious stone was your covering...”

Ezekiel 28 lists only NINE stones -Exodus lists TWELVE.

Key observation:

Hell imitates priesthood but **cannot complete it.**

The enemy can mimic the look of glory, but he cannot carry covenant fullness.

THE THREE STONES MISSING (Put On One Slide)

Comparing **Exodus 28:17–20** with **Ezekiel 28:13**, three stones present in the High Priest's breastplate are **absent** from Satan's covering:

- **Jacinth**
- **Agate**
- **Amethyst**

Each stone represented a tribe. Each tribe had a blessing spoken over it by Jacob.

Genesis 49 reveals covenant promises Satan cannot bear.

Relevant Tribal Promises

Issachar - Genesis 49:14–15 (NKJV)

“Issachar is a strong donkey... he bowed his shoulder to bear a burden...”

Gad - Genesis 49:19 (NKJV)

“Gad, a troop shall tramp upon him, But he shall triumph at last.”

Asher - Genesis 49:20 (NKJV)

“He shall yield royal dainties.”

Theological takeaway:

Satan traffics in **burden, oppression, and counterfeit rule**, but cannot sustain:

- God-given strength to bear rightly
- Guaranteed triumph
- Royal covenant authority

The devil studies your PROMISES because he fears your FUTURE.

SATAN’S FINAL ATTEMPT AT FALSE PRIESTHOOD

2 Thessalonians 2:3–4 (NKJV)

“...the man of sin... sits as God in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God.”

Pattern:

- Eden: false priesthood
- Ezekiel 28: fallen cherub

- Future: antichrist counterfeit temple authority

When counterfeit priesthood rises, God answers by purifying real priesthood.

THE NEW COVENANT SHIFT: FROM GARMENT TO BODY

1 Peter 2:9 (NKJV)

“But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood...”

1 John 2:20 (NKJV)

“But you have an anointing from the Holy One...”

Transition truth:

In the Old Covenant, God spoke through **one man wearing a breastplate**. In the New Covenant, God speaks through **one Body filled with the Spirit**.

THE NINE GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT: GOD’S SPEAKING-PLACE TODAY

1 Corinthians 12:7 (NKJV)

“But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all.”

1 Corinthians 12:8–10 (NKJV)

- Word of wisdom
- Word of knowledge
- Faith
- Gifts of healings
- Working of miracles
- Prophecy
- Discerning of spirits
- Tongues
- Interpretation of tongues

1 Corinthians 12:11 (NKJV)

“...distributing to each one individually as He wills.”

Key connection:

- **Breastplate = divine inquiry**
- **Gifts = divine manifestation**
- **Then: stones over the heart**
- **Now: Spirit in the Body**

God did not remove His voice from the earth. He relocated it into His people.

THE CHURCH IS GOD'S “SPEAKING PLACE” ON THE EARTH!