

Priestly Clothing

Ex 28:36-43 describes the dress of the priests. The so-called *miter* or *turban* bore no resemblance to modern conceptions of the miter, but was only a headdress encircling the brow, upon which the crown rested (Ex 29:6). Ex 28:40 — What is translated as *hats* in some versions is actually a *diadem* or band of linen about the head, upon which the crown would sit once a year (Heb 9:7; Ex 28:36-38; 39:30-31). The priests would wear their priestly clothes during the day as they served in the Temple. And there were high priestly linen clothes for going into the Holy of holies in simplicity and humility.

In Zec 3:5, *diadem* is #6797. The diadem, made of fine linen, is also described in Ex 28:4,36-39, where it is #4701, as in Lev 16:4. #4701 (*mitsnepheth*) in Strong's Concordance is the official turban of the king or high priest, which we wear in assumption of the crown (1 Cor 9:25; 2 Tim 4:8; Jms 1:12; 1 Pet 5:4; Rev 2:10; 3:11). The diadem is a symbol of the royal dignity of our priesthood (Ex 19:5-6; 1 Pet 2:9-10), and the glory that will belong to the overcomers, the victors (Rom 8:17-18; 1 Cor 9:25). We are adorned with the diadem in assumption of regal power (Ex 29:6; Zec 3:5). This is our prophetic destiny in Isa 62:3 — to be a crown of glory and a royal diadem in the hand of our God. As in Job 29:14, the diadem is a symbol of righteousness and justice, an emblem of absolute power, and is distinguished from the crown (Rev 19:12, #1238). The diadem, made from a filament of fine linen, is a white linen band encircling the brow to indicate the assumption of royal dignity. Ex 29:6 — The crown goes upon the diadem.

With linen clothing and diadem we shall be attired as is fitting for drawing near in Heb 10:19-26. We must see the seriousness of taking for granted these holy occasions, as we prepare daily before the minchah (Heb 10:22; Lev 15:16-18; 18:19; 20:18).¹ It is not

¹ To be cut off in Lev 20:18 is one thing, but in Lev 20:13 it is capital punishment, and the blood shall be upon their own heads, which is a curse in the case of an Israelite — a curse unto the Second Death (Rev

a complicated thing of the head, but a simple love affair of the heart (2 Tim 4:8; Jms 1:12).

Ex 28:37 — Blue until Messiah came, but now until He returns, we wear a white head-dress or band (miter, diadem, or turban) of fine linen (Ex 29:6), a shirt of fine linen (Ex 28:39), and a sash or belt of woven work, and linen trousers (Ex 28:42).

Lev 16:4 — The priest shall bathe in water and put on the holy garments:

- ✓ Linen Tunic
- ✓ Linen Trousers
- ✓ Linen Sash
- ✓ Linen Turban

These are the holy garments, as also in Ex 39:27-29.

Zec 3:1-5 — A new disciple will be given at baptism two sets (Ex 28:39-43) of holy, set-apart, special minchah clothing for priestly duty:

- 1) Tunic (#3801) = shirt (reaching down at least to the fingertips);
- 2) Trousers (#4370) = pants underneath (reaching at least past the knees);
- 3) Sash (#73) = belt or waistband;
- 4) Turban (#4701) = diadem (linen headband).

The proper shirt takes the place of the long robe to the ankles or feet. These are simple linen garments for priestly service. We wash with water (Heb 10:22; Lev 16:4) as needed before wearing them, judging ourselves right, presenting our bodies as a living sacrifice, holy, and acceptable to God for our priestly service (Rom 12:1).

The “short trousers” in Ex 39:28 and 28:42 were to cover their nakedness, protecting the modesty of the priests (Ex 20:26). Given the sexually preoccupied worship of Israel’s neighbors, this provision was decidedly counter-cultural. Exposed nakedness

21:8; 22:15). It is perversion, as also in Lev 20:12 and 16. Pr 3:32 — Perverts cause confusion, such as gay adoption (Lev 20:9).

was common in Canaanite worship. So today our culture runs counter to what ran before in the 30's and 60's, which was counter to the moral traditions of the natural law (what nature teaches).

Minchah clothes are all linen (Lev 16:4). An all-linen shirt that reaches down to the tips of the fingers so that when we raise our hands there is no distraction possible. Pants reach to below the knees. We wear a belt to hold our pants up to the waist (a waistband). Our diadem is of white linen, not bleached but natural. For the rest of the clothes you can choose your own modest colors. Women wear the same attire — a shirt for both men and women, the hem reaching to the fingertips, the sleeves below the elbows, pants below the knees or to cover the legs altogether so that there is no distraction. The “short pants” for the Old Testament priests covered the thighs, but were worn underneath the full-length robe. Messiah is our robe. Our shorts gather at the knees so that you can't see up the legs, which is a distraction.