

# THE PRIESTHOOD #5

## THE BREASTPLATE

Exodus 28:15-29

**Introduction:** The Breastplate was a part of the Ephod - (Exodus 28:15)

### I. The Size and Material of the Breastplate (Exodus 28: 15 & 16)

- A. It was to be “foursquare” (equal on all sides)
- B. It was to be folded in a “doubled” fashion (Forming a pocket – Exodus 28:30)
  - 1. Doubled to strengthen the support of the “precious stones.”
  - 2. Doubled to form as a pocket for the Urim and Thummin)
    - a. The Urim and Thummin are explained in the attachment
- C. The Breastplate was to be “a span” (Generally considered to be 9 inches)
  - 1. A span was considered the distance of an “open hand” (Thumb to little finger)

### II. The Stones on the Breastplate of the High Priest (Exodus 28:17)

- A. There were four rows of stones - with each row containing three stones = 12 stones
- B. Each stone was different.
- C. The name of each of the twelve tribes of Israel appeared on each stone
  - 1. There was a great variety of stones
  - 2. There were no duplicates of a stone
  - 3. They were all equal in beauty and value
    - a. There was no Jealousy
    - b. There was no conflict
    - c. There was no discord
    - d. There was not “back-biting.”
  - 4. They “balanced each other”
  - 5. They were in harmony. – COMPLIMENTED EACH OTHER
- D. The name of each tribe was inscribed on a “Precious Stone.”
- E. Each of God’s children are “precious in his sight.”
  - 1. You are MORE than “a child of God”
    - a. Satan want us to think of ourselves as worthless!
    - b. You need to stop and realize “to God – YOU ARE PRECIOUS!”

### III. The Security of the Breastplate (Exodus 28:22-28)

- A. The Breastplate was CHAINED to the Ephod
- B. It was permanent (Verse 28) - “That it be not loosed....”
  - 1. It did not come “on” and “off” – I could not be removed.
- C. The Breastplate was “On the Heart of the High Priest” every time he appeared in the “Presence of God” (Exodus 28:29).
  - a. We are “spiritual Israel” – Today – God carries us on his Heart continually

### IV. The Stones on the Shoulders of the High Priest (Exodus 28:9-14)

- A. There were two Onyx stones, one on each shoulder.
  - 1. These connected the two parts (front and back) of the Ephod (Exodus 28:7)
  - 2. Both stones were of the same material
- B. Six names of the tribes of Israel were engraved on each stone.

1. Pictures all believers are equally loved and equally cared for by God
  2. Pictures "God is no respecter of persons" (Romans 2:11)
- C. The Onyx stones were "set in Gold" (Exodus 28:11b)
1. Gold pictures "Deity – Christ"
    - a. The stones were: enclosed – secured – fixed
- D. Pictures: All believers as seen by God, "In Christ."
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|-----------------|------------------|
| 1. Romans 8:1   | 5. Eph. 1:10     |
| 2. I Cor. 1:30  | 6. Eph. 2:6      |
| 3. I Cor. 15:18 | 7. I Thess. 4:16 |
| 4. II Cor. 5:19 | 8. Peter 5:14    |
- E. The names were "by birth" (Exodus 28:10)
1. Shoulders – best place for names of "family relationships."
    - a. God has no favorites – listed from youngest to oldest
    - b. All on same type of stone – all set in Gold
    - b. **God loves all of His children equally**
  2. Christ is our;
    - a. High Priest
    - b. Savior
    - c. Lord
    - d. Mediator
    - e. Christ is "Our all in all."
    - f. **Our Shepherd** - (Psalms 23:1)
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- F. Christ carries us, "On His heart" – ALWAYS! (Romans 8:34 & Hebrews 7:25)
1. **The Breastplate could not be removed!**
- G. Christ carries us, "On His Shoulders" – Any time we need carrying! (Luke 15:5)
1. When one can no longer "bear his/her burden alone"
 

Each one is important enough to God that He will "leave the Ninety and Nine"  
And carry his/her burden! (Matthew 11:28-30)

**Condition?** Yes, each one has to commit their burden to Him  
You have "let him" carry your burden (Hebrew 12:15)

## THE NAMES OF THE SONS OF JACOB

### FACT ABOUT THE 12 TRIBES OF ISRAEL – BY BIRTH

Abraham begot Isaac, Isaac begot Jacob

To be an Israelite by blood, a person must be a descendent of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Jacob begot 12 sons who are listed in the following information. The 12 sons of Jacob are the “Patriarchs” of the 12 tribes of Israel. **Example:** Jacob’s son Reuben is the Patriarch of the Tribe of Reuben, and so forth.

Name of Son Of Jacob	Meaning of the Name	Mother of the Son	Stone	Birth verse
1. Reuben	See, a son	Leah	Sardius	<a href="#">Genesis 29:32</a>
2. Simeon	Hearing	Leah	Topaz	<a href="#">Genesis 29:33</a>
3. Levi	Joined/attached	Leah	Carbuncle	<a href="#">Genesis 29:34</a>
4. Judah	Joined	Leah	Emerald	<a href="#">Genesis 29:35</a>
5. Dan	Judge	Bilhah (Rachel’s servant)	Sapphire	<a href="#">Genesis 30:6</a>
6. Naphtali	My wrestling	Bilhah (Rachel’s servant)	Diamond	<a href="#">Genesis 30:6</a>
7. Gad	Troop/Invader	Zilpah (Leah’s servant)	Jacinth	<a href="#">Genesis 30:11</a>
8. Asher	Happy	Zilpah (Leah’s servant)	Agate	<a href="#">Genesis 30:13</a>
9. Issachar	Man of hire	Leah	Amethyst	<a href="#">Genesis 30:18</a>
10. Zebulun	Dwelling	Leah	Beryl	<a href="#">Genesis 30:20b</a>
11. Joseph	Increaser	Rachel	Onyx	<a href="#">Genesis 30:24</a>
12. Benjamin	Son of the The Right Hand	Rachel	Jasper	<a href="#">Genesis 35:18</a>

**There is no such thing as the “10 lost tribes of Israel.”** [James 1:1](#) speaks of the “Twelve tribes of Israel.” [Revelation 7:1-8](#) list the twelve tribes. [Acts 26:7](#) mentions the “twelve tribes.” [Matthew 10:6](#) refers “...the lost sheep of the house of Israel.” Jesus instructed the disciples to “...go rather to the lost tribes.” If they had of been “lost” as some claim, the disciples could not have “gone to them”.

# THE PRIESTHOOD # 6

## THE URIM AND THE THUMMIN

Exodus 28:30

*“Thou shalt put in the breastplate of Judgment the Urim and the Thummim.”*

What these were has, to my knowledge, never yet been discovered.

1. They are nowhere described.
2. There is no direction given to Moses concerning how to make them.
3. Whatever they were, they do not appear to have been made on this occasion.
4. If they were the work of man at all, they must have been the articles in the ancient tabernacle, matters used by the patriarchs, but not described.

This is the opinion of some of the Jewish doctors. Rabbi Menachem, speaking on this chapter, says, "The Urim and Thummim were not the work of the artificer. They were a mystery delivered to Moses from the mouth of God.

Regardless of the source, it is clear that God was not consulted by men using Urim and Thummim,

There is sufficient evidence from several Scriptures that they “consulted God,” but how or in what manner God was consulted is not clearly explained.

This mode of consultation, whatever it was, does not appear to have been in use from the time of Solomon's Temple to the time of its destruction. After the destruction of the Temple, the Urim and Thummim are never mentioned again. The truth which God apparently revealed to them has never been revealed to us.

The fact that the Jews inquired of God by the means of the Urim and Thummim is stated, but is nowhere explained.

*“And he put the breastplate upon him: also he put in the breastplate the Urim and the Thummim” (Lev. 8:8).*

*“And of Levi he said, Let thy Thummim and thy Urim be with thy holy one, whom thou didst prove at Massah, and with whom thou didst strive at the waters of Meribah” (Deut. 33:8).*

*“And the Tirshatha said unto them, that they should not eat of the most holy things, till there stood up a priest with Urim and with Thummim” (Eze. 2:63).*

*“And the Tirshatha said unto them, that they should not eat of the most holy things, till there stood up a priest with Urim and Thummim” (Neh. 7:65).*  
(KJV)