



Before the THRONE The Devotional

Volume 3

The Prophetic Books

Ezekiel 44:17

“...when *the priests* shall enter in at the gates of the inner court, they shall be clothed with linen garments; and no wool shall come upon them, while they minister in the gates of the inner court, and within *it*.” Ezekiel 44:17

At first appearance we ask ourselves, “why such an odd regulation?” Did it really matter so much what the priests wore? Why is God being so persnickety?

Don’t forget, “...these things happened... for our examples and they are written for our admonition...” (1 Corinthians 10:11). Such curious things are teaching tools – visual aids, as it were, so we can glean spiritual truth from them.

Linen is a “cool” cloth allowing skin to breathe, whereas wool retains body heat and more easily produces perspiration. “And this is a problem, why?” you may ask. “For by grace are you saved through faith; and that not of yourselves; it is a gift of God – not of works, lest any man should boast.” (Ephesians 2:8 – 9). You can see it now can’t you? While in the presence of the Lord, there is to be no evidence of man’s sweat – or shall we say it this way – in the Lord’s presence there must be no attempt on man’s part to satisfying God’s righteous standards by his labour or work – it simply can’t be done. All human efforts at satisfying God’s justice is as a filthy rag! (Isaiah 64:6 also Romans 3:23)

Without faith, it is impossible to please God...” (Hebrews 11:6). Our right standing with the Lord is based upon His work at Calvary, not upon our “works of righteousness.” “He saved us, not because of the good things we did, but because of His mercy. He washed away our sins and gave us a new life through the Holy Spirit.” (Titus 3:5 NLT). All of our labors – even after we are born again – those works that will endure, must be based upon His Word and our obedience to the Spirit, not our own efforts! (See Matthew 7:21 - 23).

“Lord, today I desire to wear my priestly garments – garments of faith and trust in You. Allow me to stand today in those “works You have foreordained for me to walk in.” (Ephesians 2:10). In Jesus’ name, Amen!”

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