

SLAVES SET FREE
A Study in the Book of Exodus
Holy Bible, New International Version ©2011

The Priesthood

Exodus 28–29

*"Do not be afraid. Stand firm and you will see the deliverance the LORD will bring you today.
The Egyptians you see today you will never see again. The LORD will fight for you;
you need only to be still."* Exodus 14:13–14

Day 1: Read Exodus 28:1–5, Hebrews 5:1–4, and Leviticus 21:5–8.

1. What job did God call Aaron and his sons to in Exodus 28:1?

2. Review the job description of a priest:
 - a. Was a priest chosen by God, elected or a volunteer? (Heb. 5:1)

 - b. Was he able to marry? (Lev. 21:7)

 - c. Was the priesthood temporary or permanent? (Ex. 29:9)

 - d. What were the priest's main responsibilities? (Heb. 5:1–3)

Day 2: Read Exodus 28:6–43.


3. Why was Aaron to wear special clothes? (28:2)

4. As you read today's passage, list and label the garments of the priest in the drawing. (*Optional:* Use colored pencils to approximate the jewels, stones, and embroidery.)

5. Describe the *Ephod*—a sleeveless, tunic-like garment.

6. Where did the breastpiece sit, and why? (28:15, 30)

7. What was inside the pocket that made up the breastpiece? (28:30)

What were they used for? (Consider the fact that the priest is the mediator between God and man.) (Num. 27:21;  1 Sam. 23:6–13)



Day 3: Read Exodus 28:31–43.

8. What do the 12 precious stones on both the ephod and the breastpiece represent?(28:9, 21, 29)
9. Why does Aaron have bells on the hem of his robe? (28:33–35)
10. What sign does Aaron wear on his forehead, and what is its purpose? (28:36–38)
11. Now that you have studied the details of God’s design for the High Priest, choose one or two words to sum up the total effect of his garments.

Day 4: Read Exodus 29:1–34.

12. How were oil, bread, and water used to consecrate Aaron and his sons?
 - a. water (29:4)
 - b. oil (29:7)
 - c. bread (29:23-25)

Consecrate: to officially make something holy and able to be used for religious ceremonies.¹

13. Describe the offering of the bull. What kind of offering was it? (29:10-14)
14. How is the offering of the first ram different from the offering of the bull?

What kind of offering was it? (29:15-18)


15. How was the second ram used to make Aaron and his sons 'holy'? (29:19-20)
16. What was the second ram used for after consecration? (29:31-33)

Day 5: Read Exodus 29:35–46.

17. How long did the consecration/ordination of the priests last? Summarize what took place during this time. (29:35-37)
18. The practice of offering two lambs a day (29:38) was instituted in this passage. Give some of the differences between:
- a. The lamb offered in the morning:

 - b. The lamb offered at twilight:
19. Where do the sacrifices take place, and for what reason have they been established? (29:42)
20. Exodus 29:44–46 sums up God’s purpose and work at this point in history. Using the same sentence structure, sum up what God might say about his purpose and work in your life.

This lesson on Exodus is adapted from “Slaves Set Free” by New Life Glenside Women’s Bible Study, 1996-1997.

* indicates the passage is for further study.

¹ Definition of **consecrate** from the **Cambridge Advanced Learner's Dictionary & Thesaurus** © Cambridge University Press).