



EXODUS 28

IN 5 MINUTES

When:

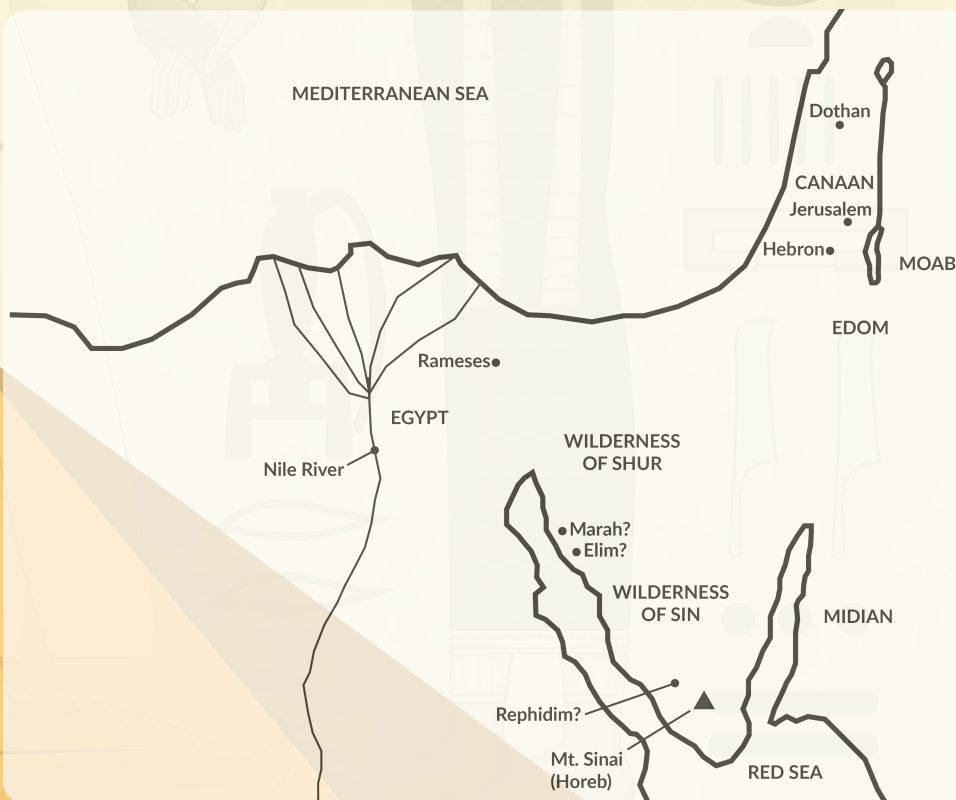
- God delivered the Israelites from slavery in approximately 1491 B.C.
- The events of Exodus 28 took place 3-4 months after the Hebrews left Egypt (19:1).

Characters:

- God - The Lord's glory descended on Mount Sinai. In Exodus 28, God spoke with Moses on the mountain and gave him instructions for instituting a priesthood.
- Moses - A Hebrew who grew up in the house of Pharaoh. He fled Egypt in Exodus 2 and went to live in Midian. God called him back to Egypt to deliver the Israelites from slavery.
- Aaron - God chose Aaron, Moses' brother, to be the High Priest of the Israelites.
- Nadab, Abihu, Eleazar, and Ithamar - Aaron's sons who were chosen to serve with him as priests to the people.

Where:

- Moses and the Israelites were encamped near Mount Sinai.



Outline:

- THE PRIESTS OF ISRAEL AND THEIR GARMENTS (28:1-5):
 - + God selected Aaron and his sons to be the priests of Israel.
 - + Aaron was to be the High Priest.
 - + God told Moses He would gift certain men a “spirit of skill” to make special garments for the priests.
- INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE EPHOD (28:6-14):
 - + God told Moses to have an ephod made that was to be worn by Aaron.
 - + It was to be made of gold and blue, purple, and scarlet yarn.
 - + It was made of two shoulder pieces that attached together.
 - + The ephod was to have two onyx stones affixed to the shoulder pieces, each engraved with half the names of the tribes of Israel (six on each).
- THE BREASTPIECE OF JUDGEMENT (28:15-30):
 - + A breastpiece was to be fashioned for the High Priest from similar materials as the ephod.
 - + It was to be 1 span tall and 1 span wide (span = approximately 1/2 cubit).
 - + 12 gemstones were to be affixed on the breastpiece with gold filigree, each engraved with 1 of the names of the 12 tribes of Israel.
 - + The Urim and Thummim were to be kept inside the breastpiece.
- THE ROBE OF THE EPHOD (28:31-35):
 - + Underneath the ephod, the priest was to wear a robe of blue.
 - + The hem of the garment was to be decorated with images of pomegranates and golden bells were to be affixed to it.
- THE GOLDEN HEADPIECE “HOLY TO THE LORD” (28:36-38):
 - + A plate of pure gold was to be engraved with the words “Holy to the Lord.”
 - + Aaron was to affix the plate to his turban with a blue cord.
- OTHER PRIESTLY GARMENTS (28:39-43):
 - + In addition to the articles mentioned above, Aaron was to wear a checkered coat, a turban of fine linen, and a sash of embroidered needlework.
 - + Coats, sashes, caps, and undergarments were to be made for Aaron’s sons.
 - + The priests were to be anointed and ordained for their special role.

Application:

- This chapter should instill in us the significance of coming into the presence of God.
- Aaron’s job wasn’t to be taken lightly and the consequence of disrespecting the Lord in the tabernacle was death (28:35; Lev 10).
- Appearing before God wasn’t something every Israelite was allowed to do.
- Modern Christians are priests (Rev 1:6) to God and have the privilege of speaking to Him and worshipping Him directly, but that doesn’t mean we should take the privilege lightly.
- When we pray, worship, and minister in sacred things we need to reverence God and honor Him as the Holy One who is worthy of utmost respect.

