Elder Bobby Willis



Godly Leaders/Disciples

There was a time during Old Testament History when the Children of God were led in worship by "**Priest**" under the Mosaic dispensation. Aaron, followed by his offspring, were chosen of God to officiate in the tabernacle during their worship time. The tribe of Levi was designated by the Lord to be the Spiritual Leaders of the nation of Israel. Because of this, we require our ministers (elders) to be called as Aaron was called, "And no man taketh this honour unto himself, but he that is called of God, as was Aaron" (Hebrews 5:4).

The priest wore specific type of "**holy garments**" as a requirement of their administration during the ceremonies and times of offerings made unto God. Their garments were of fine white linen and various other components as indicated in the 28th and 29th chapters of Exodus.

The Mosaic system of worship was abolished by the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, (Ephesians 2:14-16), **"For he is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition between us; Having abolished in his flesh the enmity, even the law of commandments contained in ordinances; for to make in himself of twain one new man, so making peace;..." that he might reconcile both unto God in one body by the cross, having slain the enmity thereby. He also abolished the requirements of the natural ceremonial garments. Our garments now are to be "the whole armour of God"** (Ephesians 6:11). We should not dress, as ministers, in any way which would call attention to our selves. The praise, honor, and glory goes to God and our dress, (elder, members, and visitors alike) should be godly and appropriate for worshiping our Lord.

Now we are blessed with a new priesthood and a new covenant, "For the priesthood being changed, there is made of necessity a change also of the law" (Hebrews 7:12). Notice what Paul relates concerning Christ, "Then said he, Lo, I come to do thy will, O God. He taketh away the first, that he may establish the second. By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all." (Hebrews 10:9-10). Peter tells us that we all, as

disciples of Christ, are priest in the service of God: "Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ." John elaborated on this further in Revelation 1:6, "And hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father; to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen."

God requires that we appear with a reasonable level of dignity and with godly order when we worship HIm. **"For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps:..**" As Christ did NOT call attention to HImself, neither then should we, therefore we should **"be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity**" (I Timothy 4:12). Perhaps it would do us good to ... "<u>Think About It!</u>"