

Sermon Notes

Exodus – The Revealing of God’s Glory and His Design for the Chosen #90

“Decision Making and the Will of God” – Exodus 28:15-30

I. Introduction

A. Making decisions.

1. The challenge of making decisions.
2. Pastor Don’s big decisions from the past.
3. Elders often wish they had a direct line to heaven while overseeing God’s people.

B. Reading of the text: Exodus 28:15-30

II. Exposition

A. Exodus 28:15-21

1. Review of High Priest’s duties and his attire.
2. The “breastplate”
 - a. Actually made of fabric.
 - b. Contained gemstones – same list as in Ezekiel 28:13 and Revelation 21:19-20
 - c. A shadow of God’s redemptive plan.
 1. Exodus 19:5-6a, I Peter 2:9

B. Exodus 28:22-30

1. Care was taken to insure the breastpiece remained in place.
2. Also the 12 gemstones, representing the 12 tribes, always remained close to the priest’s heart.
 - a. “Memorial,” verse 29.
 - b. Note repetition of “over his heart,” verses 29, 30.
 - c. The heart is the seat of love and affection.
 - d. See Hebrews 7:25, 4:15a

III. The Urim and Thummim

A. How did they receive divine guidance?

1. The breastpiece of “Breastpiece of Decision”
 - a. Exodus 28:15a, 29; Leviticus 8:8

B. Design and use

1. A pocket designed for holding these objects.
2. Hebrew for Urim is L_____ and Thummim is P_____.
3. Speculation on these gemstones.
 - a. dice?
 - b. word spelling?
 - c. odd/even?
4. Occurrences of use
 - a. Numbers 27:21; I Samuel 28:6; 23:1-2; Nehemiah 7:65
Ezra 2:63; I Samuel 14:37-41

C. Seeking divine guidance today.

1. Urim and Thummim fulfilled in Christ – Hebrews 1:1-2a
2. How do we determine the correct decisions to make?
 - a. Scripture does not contain private instruction particular to individuals.
 - b. It says: I Thess. 4:3-5 and I Thess. 5:16-18
3. Knowing God’s will begins and ends with:
 - a. A life long s_____ of the S_____.
 - b. G_____ for life comes through getting to know the G_____.
 - c. Westminster Shorter Catechism Question #2.
4. The Holy Spirit confirms direction by guiding us to understand God’s Word.
5. Sinclair Ferguson.

IV. Point for Reflection

- A. Pursue the wisdom of the Scripture now for it will provide the direction needed later.