

The Robe of the Most High

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The Way of the Most High

“Professing belief in the Almighty Father אֱלֹהֵינוּ (YaHU(W)aH),
through His TaNaKh (falsely called ‘Old Testament’).”

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“I see **יְהוָה** (YaHU(W)aH), seated upon His throne, high and lifted up. And the train of His robe fills the Dwelling (Haykal) with exaltation” (YeshaYahu (Isa.) 6:1.

An Ancient Dress Code

The passage quoted at the top of this page gives us a vision by a most famous prophet of the TaNaKh (OT). It is a vision which brings me to my knees when I think about it. Yes, I have been provided some wonderful linen robes by the hand of my wife, as gifts from the Most High. But when I think of the Most High, seated upon His throne in His own robe, as described by the prophet YeshaYahu (Isaiah), I am humbled. And should we not reflect His image and likeness? The year 2007 was a remarkable year for Elisheba and I. About the time of our daughter’s birth, I underwent cutting of the foreskin (see our article on *Cutting the Foreskin: The Oath of the Seed of Awbrahawn*). Shortly after, Elisheba had her trial of birthing. It was a wonderful home-birth experience. But with the birth of our daughter came a feeling of seriousness about how lacking we were in our immersion into ancient Scriptural truth... as far as lifestyle is concerned. Shortly thereafter, we came to understand more about Scriptural dress and jewellery. That has led us to revelations we shared in our article on *Hair, Head-Coverings, and the Seal of the Name*. Part of this is the use of robes and dresses.

The use of robes and dresses is certainly “out of style.” It has been faded out by cultural changes. It is an ancient dress code. But it is a dress code which many have held on to, despite such cultural changes and pressure. Strangely enough, Yahudim (Jews) and Christians have mostly forsaken the use of robes, while Catholic priests, especially Eastern Orthodox, continue the use of robes, and Muslims have continued the use of robes. While Muslim robes are somewhat compromised, using a short robe over their shirt and pants, such robes are reminiscent of what they used to be. In some Asian cultures, males wear robes. The “kimono” reflects the robe which the Japanese wore in times past, and which Japanese Shinto priests continue to wear. Buddhist monks wear saffron-coloured robes. Some African cultures continue to wear the ancient robe. And I might add that the African peoples have much in common with the ancient Eebreem (Hebrews) we see in the TaNaKh (OT). **It is only in recent centuries that most of the world has converted to the use of pants and shirts, and suits and ties.**

While most of the world has forgotten the ancient robe, one modernized and agnostic fellow decided he would try to live as Scripturally as possible for at least a year. Part of that experiment led him to stumble across the ancient sect known as the “Essenes.” He found out that the Essenes followed a wise principle given in the writings of the Preacher or “Kohélet,” known to most as “Ecclesiastes.” Most people attribute this writing to Shelomoh (Solomon). In any case, the following is one person’s experience and discovery of the ancient robe.

“Day 95. I looked in the mirror today and decided it’s official: I’ve become someone I’d cross the street to avoid. To complement my beard and tassels, I’ve begun wearing all white, as prescribed by King Solomon in Ecclesiastes: **‘Let your garments be always white.’** ... I rarely see New Yorkers wearing all white unless they’re behind a bakery counter. So I’m getting even more wary glances than ever on the subway. ... But the thing is, I’m enjoying it. My white wardrobe makes me feel lighter, more spiritual.

Happier. It's further proof of a major theme of this year: The outer affects the inner. Behavior shapes your psyche as much as the other way around. ... The 'white garment' line from Ecclesiastes is usually interpreted metaphorically – as a call to remain pure and joyous. But it's not beyond-a-doubt metaphorical. Maybe it means what it says: Dress in white. An ancient Israelite sect called the Essenes dressed in white, as do some kabbalists. I should have been wearing all white from day one, but it was one of those rules I felt I had to build up to. Now that I'm doing it, I don't want to stop" (*The Year of Living Biblically*, pages 122-123).

Indeed, what we have here is an experience of an ancient discovery... that of **wearing robes**. And not only is it an ancient discovery, but it is also a principle of the TaNaKh (OT). In truth, it starts with you. It starts with our family. Will it be you? We know it will be us.

Lessons From the Tent

When we compare the Tent of the Most High and its priestly service with our bodily tents, we consider the robe. The priestly ephod was woven without a seam (Ex. 28:31-32), and much of the writings of Sh'moat (Exodus) is dedicated to the description of priestly apparel. Needless to say, Yisra'El (Israel) was always meant to be a royal nation of priests. But many people complain. They rationalize it by saying "Oh well, they wore robes back in ancient times. It is not what we have to do today." But there is something that people have not recognized about Scripture. **The Almighty is not the product of people's culture, although some would have us to believe that.** The world's fashion has deceived us out of the Scriptural robe. That is the plain and simple truth of the matter. Again, it is a small deception that adds to the mountain of great deception.

In B'raysheet (Gen.) 3:21 we see the "cutting" of animals to **clothe Adawm with a robe of skin**. The word for "coats" in the KJV of Gen. 3:21 is "ketonet," meaning "garment, covering, or robe" (SC, H#3801). It is the **same word used throughout Sh'moat (Ex.) 28, dealing with the priestly robes** that had to be made for the service of the Dwelling Place (Temple) of the Most High. So again, we have another symbol through Adawm and the robe of skin, and the priestly robe. From B'raysheet (Gen.) 3:21 we can see that Adawm (man) was **ALWAYS** declared righteous by the unmerited favour and gift of the Almighty. After the "fall" of Adawm as most call it, Adawm was clothed with a robe of skin to cover his nakedness/transgression. **We are clothed with a spiritual "robe of righteousness" by the Almighty Father (YeshaYahu (Isa.) 61:10). Our literal robes which we wear are reflective of that spiritual reality.** At least for Elisheba and I.

In B'raysheet (Gen.) 3:21, we see that the Almighty took priestly action, in **making animal-skin robes to cover the nakedness of His people. Thus, while many people despise the wearing of pelts, it seems that this was the first garment ever invented and approved by the Most High.** So don't let those animal-rights activists scare you off. Sure, animals deserve to be treated well according to the laws of Scripture. But show these animal-activists that there is nothing in Scripture against the use of animal skin or hair for our garments. The style of these robes of skins that Adawm and his wife wore is uncertain. **The point to note is that nakedness was covered.** These weren't Roman togas or mini-skirts, as some hand-drawn pictures have suggested. Such pictures

of scanty clothing can be seen in Jehovah's Witness tracts. And just as the Almighty personally clothed His people in B'raysheet (Gen.), and when He raised up a priesthood for Himself, so also He wants to clothe His people today with the Scriptural standards He has set forth.

Lessons From History and Archaeology

Many of our references to the style or mode of dress in ancient cultures, including the Eebreem (Hebrews), are noted through archaeology. Some of these descriptions reveal to us that the common garment for male and female was a robe or dress that went from the neck to the ankles, with the ankles uncovered. Eebree (Hebrew) males often wore hooded garments. Even in places like Bahbel (Babylon), the common male wore a head-covering turban, headdress, or hooded robe. The false (pagan) nations like Bahbel (Babylon), Mitsrayim (Egypt) and Ashur (Assyria) seem to have been more adulterous, promiscuous, or naked with their clothing. They often wore shorter skirts and scanty shirts.

That is basically all we will say on historical and archaeological revelations on the Scriptural robe. Information on this subject is abundant in "Bible Handbooks," "Illustrated Bible Dictionaries," encyclopaedias, and other sources. We encourage you to learn where you can, but be certain on what Scripture says about how we are to clothe ourselves. Take whatever measures you can to have these garments made for yourselves... and then you will see the rewards of your obedience in the joy of wearing such garments, and the witness that is strengthened in you. **We believe it is the desire of the Most High to have a people, clothed in Scriptural garments, as a witness to the world in this age of lawlessness and modern-day fashion abominations.** If you need help, ideas, or suggestions, please email us, and we will do our best to be of service.

Practical Application

The clothing products that we have depended upon are made with synthetics much of the time. These synthetics are made using harmful chemicals that absorb into the skin. Further, if they are made with natural products like cotton, wool, or linen, it isn't 100%. They usually use polyester thread (synthetic again), and they mix polyester with cotton, wool, and linen much of the time. But it is funny that they recognize the harm in this. They make most baby clothing with natural fibres such as cotton or linen. But then they make most adult clothing with polyester and other synthetics. It is time to stop depending upon the non-Scriptural clothing and fashion trends. ***The Almighty said that we should not "mix" or "mingle" one type of fabric with another, in making our garments.*** "You will not let your cattle mate with a different kind. You will not sow your field with mixed seeds; neither will a garment of mixed linen and wool come upon you" (Lev. 19:19).

As we can see, the Almighty is very particular about how He likes things done. We may say it is nonsense or dislike the fact that He gave these commandments, but that is only our rebellious nature. If we have fields, we should have one field for wheat,

another for flax, etc. If we have cows, they should be of one kind. If we have garments, each one should be made with one type of fabric. In other words, one robe can be made of cotton, while the over-coat could be made of wool. This is the perfection of the Most High, and we believe the spiritual significance of these commands is to keep things orderly, 100%, and set-apart from one another.

When it comes to males wearing robes, like the priests, we may wear shorts or short pants that are roomy underneath (Ex. 28:42). Long pants under a robe look Muslim, and kind of defeat the purpose when it shows from under the robe. A baggy shirt underneath the robe also goes well with the short pants. Elisheba made a nice linen sleeveless shirt for under my robe. A second robe over top is where the real style can come in, and can provide extra warmth. I have found that there is enough warmth, even in winter, with the linen shorts/trousers, the linen sleeveless shirt, first robe, and then outer robe/coat.

The covering of the Tent of the Most High was made of rams' skin, with a second layer of covering of antelope skin (or some clean animal) over top. This can be very symbolic spiritually, when we wear two robes. One is a first under-robe, and the second is an over-coat. In the winter time, have some robes made with thick fabric, along with the undergarments, and a wool outer robe perhaps. Heavier robes can be made for colder weather.

Robes can be very stylish if they are made by an artistic hand. We shouldn't look ridiculous. If I couldn't get a robe that looks stylish, then I wouldn't be satisfied. Take a search on the internet, and you will see some pretty ridiculous robes that some Scriptural believers wear, although their heart is probably in the right place. But there are plenty of people who provide nice-looking custom-made garments. And many stores provide patterns for robes in the "costume" section.

Ladies could also have a few baggy undergarments and a thicker dress for the winter to go with their dresses, with perhaps a natural leather coat or something of that nature. A long, cow hide leather jacket is great for the winter time, over robes or dresses. Then for the feet, all you would need are a high style boot and some thick socks.

We could go on about robes and dresses, but this should be enough for now to chew on. We may have to compromise the robe and dress if our employment requires it (ah, the sadness of bondage to the world's employers to pay our bills). When you are first making the transition to robes and dresses, be patient and trust that **יהוה** (YaHU(W)aH) will help you to be properly clothed.

Foot Wear

Some people, protesting the use of robes, have argued about sandals. "Well if you wear a robe, you have to wear sandals!" True, the wearing of sandals is a Scriptural precedent . . . one that would be hard for Westerners in cold areas. But when the weather is great, I prefer sandals over shoes any day. You have got to use your head! Sandals in the middle of winter wouldn't be the smartest idea. Nor do we believe that people did that in Scriptural times either. It does sometimes snow in Yisra'El (Israel). When weather permits, you will learn that the robe and sandals are much nicer than pants, shirt, and shoes. In fact, I wear sandals with wool socks in the winter when it is nice and sunny out.

And wearing a robe with proper under shorts is no big deal in the winter, especially if you have a nice, long wool coat to go over. We are currently looking for natural cow-hide leather shoes, sandals, and boots. Such a thing is hard to find, but we will keep our eyes peeled. These types of things will be wonderful to add to the Scriptural robe and dress look.

SOURCES

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