

e. Under the Law

--to serve the tabernacle and to supervise the religious expressions of the people

--to provide a consistent witness for the pattern of Him who was to come.

3. The Inauguration of the Office...Leviticus 8

(see the instruction of Exodus 29, etc.)

a. The arrangement of materials:

8:2...the gathering of the anointing oil, bullock, rams, unleavened bread.

8:3...an assemblage at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation

8:8...the Urim and the Thummim

8:9...the mitre and the Golden crown...

Symbols abound in this portion. I cannot say much about them now but for the mitre significance see Zechariah 3 and remember that gold symbolizes royalty. The urim and thummim are unknown to us, I think, in any real detail but they should not be thought of as divining instruments... the Hebrews generally would not tolerate divination.

b. The ceremonial enactment

8:6...the washings...the symbol is of ceremonial cleansing... what is done externally should speak of what is done internally.

8:7...placing the garments...the indication is that of a readiness to do the will of God.

8:8...attaching the breastplate...it probably indicates the power to comprehend the will of God.

8:9...placing of the mitre and crown...the official signs of the designation of God.

8:10-12...the anointing oil, a threefold usage:

--on the tabernacle, etc. 8:10

--on the altar, etc. 8:11

--on Aaron's head, 8:12

This ceremony certified that the priest belonged to the same sanctified order as did the sacre buildings, vessels, etc., and this marked the perpetuity of his service for God. The commonality of the oil was that it separated all of the company so anointed into a common grouping: that which was uniquely the Lord's

8:13...the clothing of Aaron's sons...the priestly line in order

8:13-17...the sin offering