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The Ordination Ceremony of the Priesthood

8:1 to 10:20



Isra'el was now ready to "come near" to ADONAI in His Tabernacle through the medium of the sacrifices. Only one thing was lacking - **a confirmed priesthood** to facilitate the sacrificial offerings. One of the most sacred events in connection with Tabernacle service was **the ordination of the priests**. **The rituals of the priestly ordination had already been explained to Moshe at Mount Sinai in Exodus 29:1-37, now he was to carry them out.** Moshe would do exactly what **the Holy One** had taught him. He would confirm both **the priests** for service and **the Tabernacle** as that place for that service.⁹¹ **The ordination of the high priest** consisted of nine acts (**Leviticus 8:7-9**), whereas that of **the common priests** involved but three. The actual ceremony in the case of **Aaron and his sons** was performed by **Moses (Leviticus 8:1-36)**. The candidate for **ordination** was taken to **the bronze basin**, and **his** body was washed with water. Following the washing, **he** was dressed with the sacred garments and **ordained** with **holy oil**.

One cannot help but be impressed with the splendor and significance of both **the high**

priest's garments and **his** responsibility as mediator between **God** and man. **Aaron** serves well as a type of **Messiah**. **His** duties and dress all point to **the Person** and work of **Messiah** as our **High Priest**. What **the priesthood** of **Aaron** could not do, our **Lord** is able to do, because **He** is our perfect **High Priest**. **He is a priest after the order of Melchizedek (Psalm 110:4; Hebrews 5:6, 6:20 and 7:21)**. **Melchizedek** beautifully pictures **Messiah** as a type of **high priest** (see my commentary on **Hebrews**, **to see link click Bk - The New Priesthood Lasts Forever**). **Aaron's priesthood** was only the shadow, whereas **the Messiah's priesthood** is the reality.⁹²