

~BREASTPIECE (266)

[Hebrew, *cho'shen*]

- The sacred embroidered pouch worn by Israel's High Priest over his heart whenever he entered the Holy. The breastpiece Hebrew, *cho'shen* was to serve as a memorial and was apparently referred to as **the breastpiece of judgment** because of containing the Urim and Thummim by means of which **Yehowah's judgments were revealed**.
- And you must make the **breastpiece of judgment** with the workmanship of an embroiderer. Like the workmanship of the ephod you will make it. Of gold, blue thread and wool dyed reddish purple and coccus scarlet material and fine twisted linen you will make it. (**Exodus 28:15**)
- And Aaron must carry the names of the sons of Israel on the **breastpiece of judgment** over his heart when he comes into the Holy as a memorial before Yehowah constantly. (**Exodus 28:29**)
- And you must put the Urim and the Thummim into the **breastpiece of judgment**, and they must prove to be over Aaron's heart when he comes in before Yehowah, and Aaron must carry the judgments of the sons of Israel over his heart before Yehowah constantly. (**Exodus 28:30**)
- Like the ephod, the **breastpiece** was made of the finest of materials, gold, blue thread, wool dyed reddish purple, coccus scarlet material, and fine twisted linen.
- And you must make the **breastpiece of judgment** with the workmanship of an embroiderer. Like the workmanship of the ephod you will make it. Of gold, blue thread and wool dyed reddish purple and coccus scarlet material and fine twisted linen you will make it. (**Exodus 28:15**)
- The same fabrics were used in making the ten tent cloths embroidered with cherubs, the curtain separating the Holy from the Most Holy, and the screen for the entrance of the tent, the needed materials having been voluntarily contributed by the Israelites and fashioned into final form either directly by Bezalel and Oholiab or under their direction.

- **And the tabernacle you are to make of ten tent cloths, of fine twisted linen and blue thread and wool dyed reddish purple and coccus scarlet material. With cherubs, the work of an embroiderer, you will make them. (Exodus 26:1)**
- **And you must make a curtain of blue thread and wool dyed reddish purple and coccus scarlet material and fine twisted linen. He will make it with cherubs, the work of an embroiderer. (Exodus 26:31)**
- **And you must make a screen for the entrance of the tent of blue thread and wool dyed reddish purple and coccus scarlet material and fine twisted linen, the work of a weaver. (Exodus 26:36)**
- **See, I do call by name Bezalel the son of Uri the son of Hur of the tribe of Judah. (Exodus 31:2)**
- **And I shall fill him with the spirit of God in wisdom and in understanding and in knowledge and in every kind of craftsmanship. (Exodus 31:3)**
- **For designing devices, for working in gold and silver and copper. (Exodus 31:4)**
- **And in working of stones to set them and in working of wood to make products of every kind. (Exodus 31:5)**
- **As for me, look! I do put with him Oholiab the son of Ahisamach of the tribe of Dan, and in the heart of everyone wise of heart I do put wisdom, that they may indeed make everything I have commanded you. (Exodus 31:6)**
- **Then they came, everyone whose heart impelled him, and they brought, everyone whose spirit incited him, Yehowah's contribution for the work of the tent of meeting and for all its service and for the holy garments. (Exodus 35:21)**
- **And they kept coming, the men along with the women, every willing-hearted one. They brought brooches and earrings and rings and female ornaments, all sorts of articles of gold, that is, everyone who presented the wave offering of gold to Yehowah. (Exodus 35:22)**
- **And all those with whom there were found blue thread and wool**

- dyed reddish purple and coccus scarlet material and fine linen and goats hair and ram skins dyed red and sealskins, brought them. (**Exodus 35:23**)
- All those contributing the contribution of silver and copper brought Yehowah's contribution, and all those with whom there was found acacia wood for all the work of the service brought it. (**Exodus 35:24**)
 - And all the women who were wise of heart spun with their hands, and they kept bringing as yarn the blue thread and the wool dyed reddish purple, the coccus scarlet material and the fine linen. (**Exodus 35:25**)
 - And all the women whose hearts impelled them with wisdom spun the goats hair. (**Exodus 35:26**)
 - And the chieftains brought onyx stones and setting stones for the ephod and the **breastpiece**. (**Exodus 35:27**)
 - And the balsam oil and the oil for illumination and for the anointing oil and for the perfumed incense. (**Exodus 35:28**)
 - Every man and woman whose hearts incited them to bring something for all the work that Yehowah had commanded to make by means of Moses did so, the sons of Israel brought a voluntary offering to Yehowah. (**Exodus 35:29**)
 - The fabric for the **breastpiece** was evidently a cubit in length and a span in width so it would make a square when folded, thus forming a pouch into which the Urim and Thummim may have been placed.
 - The front of the **breastpiece** was adorned with 12 precious stones fitted into sockets of gold and arranged in four rows of three stones each. On each stone the name of one of the tribes of Israel was engraved.
 - And you must make the **breastpiece of judgment** with the workmanship of an embroiderer. Like the workmanship of the ephod you will make it. Of gold, blue thread and wool dyed reddish purple and coccus scarlet material and fine twisted linen you will make it. (**Exodus 28:15**)
 - It should be foursquare when doubled, a span of the hand being

- its length and a span of the hand its width. ([Exodus 28:16](#))
- And you must fill it with a filling of stones, there being four rows of stones. A row of ruby, topaz and emerald is the first row. ([Exodus 28:17](#))
 - And the second row is turquoise, sapphire and jasper. ([Exodus 28:18](#))
 - And the third row is leshem stone, agate and amethyst. ([Exodus 28:19](#))
 - And the fourth row is chrysolite and onyx and jade. Sockets of gold should be in their fillings. ([Exodus 28:20](#))
 - And the stones should be according to the names of the sons of Israel, the twelve according to their names. With the engravings of a seal they should be, each one according to its name, for the twelve tribes. ([Exodus 28:21](#))
 - And they will bind the **breastpiece** by its rings to the rings of the ephod with a blue string, that it may continue above the girdle of the ephod and the **breastpiece** may not get displaced from on top the ephod. ([Exodus 28:28](#))
 - Then he made the **breastpiece** with the workmanship of an embroiderer, like the workmanship of the ephod, out of gold, blue thread and wool dyed reddish purple and coccus scarlet material and fine twisted linen. ([Exodus 39:8](#))
 - It proved to be foursquare when doubled. They made the **breastpiece**, when doubled, a span of the hand in its length and a span in its width. ([Exodus 39:9](#))
 - Then they filled it with four rows of stones. A row of ruby, topaz and emerald was the first row. ([Exodus 39:10](#))
 - And the second row was turquoise, sapphire and jasper. ([Exodus 39:11](#))
 - And the third row was leshem stone, agate and amethyst. ([Exodus 39:12](#))
 - And the fourth row was chrysolite and onyx and jade. They were

set with settings of gold in their fillings. (**Exodus 39:13**)

- And the stones were according to the names of the sons of Israel. They were twelve according to their names, with the engravings of a seal, each according to its name for the twelve tribes. (**Exodus 39:14**)
- Next he placed the **breastpiece** upon him and put in the breastpiece the **Urim** and the **Thummim**. (**Leviticus 8:8**)
- The jewels in each row may have been arranged as listed from right to left, as in reading **Hebrew**. It cannot be stated with any certainty which precious stone corresponded to which tribe. See the individual precious stones under their individual headings.
- The **breastpiece** was securely mounted on the ephod in the following manner. Two wreathed chains of pure gold were attached to two gold rings at opposite corners of the upper part of the **breastpiece**. These chains, in turn, were fastened to the two gold settings on top of the shoulder pieces of the ephod.
- Two other gold rings were affixed at opposite extremities of the bottom edge of the **breastpiece** upon the side facing inward toward the ephod. These rings were tied by means of a blue string to the two gold rings at the base of the shoulder pieces of the ephod just above its girdle.
- And you must make upon the **breastpiece** wreathed chains, in ropework, of pure gold. (**Exodus 28:22**)
- And you must make upon the **breastpiece** two rings of gold, and you must put the two rings upon the two extremities of the breastpiece. (**Exodus 28:23**)
- And you must put the two ropes of gold through the two rings at the extremities of the **breastpiece**. (**Exodus 28:24**)
- And you will put the two ends of the two ropes through the two settings, and you must put them upon the shoulder pieces of the ephod, at the forefront of it. (**Exodus 28:25**)
- And you must make two rings of gold and set them at the two extremities of the **breastpiece** upon its edge that is on the side toward the ephod inward. (**Exodus 28:26**)

- **And you must make two rings of gold and put them upon the two shoulder pieces of the ephod from below, on its forefront, near its place of joining, above the girdle of the ephod. (Exodus 28:27)**
- **And they will bind the **breastpiece** by its rings to the rings of the ephod with a blue string, that it may continue above the girdle of the ephod and the **breastpiece** may not get displaced from on top the ephod. (Exodus 28:28)**
- **And they proceeded to make upon the **breastpiece** wreathed chains, in rope-work, of pure gold. (Exodus 39:15)**
- **Then they made two settings of gold and two rings of gold and put the two rings upon the two extremities of the breastpiece. (Exodus 39:16)**
- **After that they put the two ropes of gold through the two rings at the extremities of the **breastpiece**. (Exodus 39:17)**
- **And they put the two ends of the two ropes through the two settings. Then they put them upon the shoulder pieces of the ephod, at the forefront of it. (Exodus 39:18)**
- **Next they made two rings of gold and set them at the two extremities of the **breastpiece** upon its edge that is on the side toward the ephod inward. (Exodus 39:19)**
- **Then they made two rings of gold and put them upon the two shoulder pieces of the ephod from below, on its forefront, near its place of joining, above the girdle of the ephod. (Exodus 39:20)**
- **Finally they bound the **breastpiece** by its rings to the rings of the ephod with a blue string, that it might continue above the girdle of the ephod and the breastpiece might not get displaced from on top the ephod, just as Yehowah had commanded Moses. (Exodus 39:21)**