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WEARING RIGHTEOUSNESS AS A GARMENT

In II Corinthians we find a verse that many find hard to understand but have to receive it by faith. In Chapter 5:21 it says, "For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him." Jesus became sin, not sins, on the cross. He took in his body all of mankind's sin, but in turn, gave mankind his righteousness. You could call it the "great exchange". We can never become righteous in our own works. It comes to us by faith through Jesus Christ.

In the Old Testament the High Priest would wear the ephod, which was a blue robe. Only the high priest would wear this. It was a sacred garment, without which He could not enter into the Holy of Holies and perform the rituals and sacrifice. Over the robe the High Priest also wore the breastplate, containing the jewels of each of the twelve tribes and also within the breastplate were the Urim and the Thummin.

We, through the shed blood of Jesus, now have a garment of righteousness that we wear, which enables us to enter into the throne room of God through the name of Jesus. He wore our robe of sin at calvary and gave us his robe of righteousness. Without this robe we cannot commune with God the Father. We also have the breastplate of righteousness and are the jewels in that breastplate. Malachi 3:17 says, "And they shall be mine, saith the LORD of hosts, in that day when I make up my jewels....."

Ephesians 6:14 tells us, "... having on the breastplate of righteousness." We wear the robe of righteousness, and the breastplate of righteousness together. They protect us in our "heart" and keep us free from wrong.

Without these garments, we live a defeated Christian life. We must see ourselves as the "jewels" in that breastplate, and we must see us wearing Jesus' robe of righteousness. We are a new creation, made in the image of God my friends, with all authority through the name of Jesus. When we realize who we are, Satan cannot penetrate that breastplate.