

CNL Season 2009

5.1 Dress For Success At Home Pt 1

Transcription

Look inside your bulletin. It says, Dress For Success at Home. Dress For Success at Home. This is going to be a study which somewhat continues on the priesthood. Now, today, you're going to see more details than you've ever seen before. How many of you have seen, or been to church in the last two months and seen any of this study on the tabernacle? Raise your hand. Great, I'd say the vast majority of you. Well you've been watching the priest walk out here and today we're going to take a look a little more detail on the priest and what, you know, God obviously called him and his clothing, even, to tell about the priesthood. We have got to be very positive too, as we look at God's word. Let me tell you, God is here to encourage you in His word- That's what the word of God does, it's an encouragement. We should be encouragers in our homes just like God is. I remember the story about the fellow who goes down to the beach and he sees a fellow throwing a stick in the water. And this guy who's throwing a stick in the water is you know his dog is running out and he's getting the stick in the water and coming back. Well the amazing thing about this is, along came a pessimist and saw this and what's phenomenal about the story, is when he threw the stick deep into the ocean as the waves were coming in, the stick of course landed in the water, well the dog as it ran out into the ocean after the stick, instead of actually diving in, it would walk on the top of the water and get the stick. Over and over it ran on top of the water. Now this is pretty phenomenal. Of course the guy who owned the dog was extremely thrilled and happy about it, and he

was just mind blown, and here comes this pessimist. He says to the pessimist, did you see what my dog did, watch this, and he picks up the stick and he throws it out, of course the dog runs across the water, walking on the water, gets the stick and comes back, He says, did you see that? He says, what do you think of that? And the pessimist said, dumb dog, he can't swim. Now, see, that's the way it is so often in our lives- we don't look at things through the eyes of God, in a joyful way as opportunities or as wonderful events, but we constantly have this pessimistic look at God, outlook at God, we're really not going to be able to grow and have joy in life. And today, I want to just tell, you, to dress for success at home, God actually shows us in his word, how we can change, even the way we dress at home with our families. This is for moms; this is for dads, single moms. Even singles can take a look at how we can be more godly leaders in our homes as well. But would you read Genesis 1:27, this goes back in history to the Garden of Eden, which, of course, we see the basis in the tabernacle. So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created him, male and female created He them. And God blessed them, and God saw everything that he had made and behold it was very good. How good was it? Very good. Now this is one of those times, it just doesn't say he saw it was good, he saw that it was very good. And folks, I want to just tell you that a husband/wife, male/female relationship is considered by God a very good thing. You look back and it says, and God blessed them. And God saw everything and it was very good. Folks, there's a blessing that was put on Adam and Eve. And did you know that God wants to bless you in your home. He wants to bless you. Now, you wonder what is that all about? I want to tell you something, it's not that God just wants to torment you are let you have a miserable home life; he really wants to see blessing in your life. And he actually shows us to do it in the

Bible. And so today, as we look at sometimes, we have too many plates we're spinning, in this skit, it may be because we're not majoring in what we're suppose to major in as leaders in our home. But we're "minoring" in what we're supposed to major in and we're majoring in what we should minor in. Today, let's look at what God wants us to major in as far as leading a Godly home, And we're going do it by teaching through the garments of the high priest, what God wants us to do. And it's going sto tart off with a very simple thing, you see where it says, El Roi, the God who, would you fill in that blank. El Roi is the God who sees. Now you've heard of Jehovah-Jireh, God the provider. You've, heard of Tsidkenu, you've heard of all these names for God, well one of his names is El Roi, God the one who sees. Now as we have our high priest come up on stage, you can never miss when he's coming because of the bells which signal that he is coming. But as he is here today, I'm just going to be able, I'll share a few things that are very important and we're just going to look physically at the way that he is dressed up. The God who sees, we're going be focusing on this as well today, which is the breastplate, because it deals with how God can supernaturally watch and how he showed the people of Israel that He was seen. But I want you to see today, that we'll going be focusing also on these garments, these outer garments, which will teach us the various things that God teaches in His word. So would you look under priestly garments in your notes there, Look under priestly garments. The first thing that we're going to let you know is that you can't see, is that the linen drawers, the undergarments he wore were white, they're made out of linen Now white means what folks, purity- Excellent, alright, man, you did much better than they did last night. Garments, ok, you guys get an A+. The garment, white, is meaning purity. And the linen, is that fabric which is an interesting fabric, we can see it,

throughout scripture. Christ was probably wrapped in linen as a baby. He was probably wrapped in linen as an adult when he was in the tomb. We know that linen was one of those things, which in the book of Revelation it talks about how we will be dressed in fine white linen. It is a robe of righteousness. So we can get into the concept of linen and white. But it is white. Now the reason that the undergarments, ok, your underclothes as a high priest were white linen was for a very simple reason, if you go back to the book of Corinthians you find that Paul had to exhort them about, how as Christians in Corinth they had to stop being involved in the idolatrous practice of the heathen. You know why? Because, virtually every single, now listen to this carefully, every single cult in the Middle East had sexual practices connected to it. In Corinth there was the sexual practice of men having relations with the priestesses in the temple as a method of reaching out and getting close to the gods. And so sexual immorality has been part of the world's cults for years. To the Jew that was unacceptable. So white undergarments said, we don't practice what the rest do, we live pure, moral lives. So linen drawers represents, equals, moral purity, if you'll fill the blank in, moral purity, very important thing. Very, very important thing. And we know that moral purity is very important. Remember Sodom and Gomorrah? This little boy was being taught by his father, and that's one of the things moms and dads should teach the word of God at home. He was being taught by his dad and his father read the verse, The man named Lot was warned to take his wife and flee out of the city. But his wife looked back and was turned to salt, And so his little boy said to him, well then what happened to the flea? You said he tuned and his wife and flee out of the city and anyway. So, of course, maybe now you won't remember it, it was such a bad joke. But anyway, but what it is, is, it's moral purity. It's something that we're

supposed to have. The next thing is a tunic. Now want you to know, that there is this covering on here which is a tunic and if you'll fill this in, it means consistency. It had no seams, it was a spiritual covering. It was a spiritual covering, I want to just tell you the truth, we find it very, very important that as we go through this thing that we be parents who are consistent. What's unique about the tunic is that it is worn, but it has not a single seam in it. Now for those of you who have sewn, you know what you do, when you cut your fabric and then you hem it and you surge it, you're creating seams. There were no seams in this garment. It was one constant, continuous. If you've every knitted something, you know what that's like, where you do a constant, continuous knit. And you're not sewing seams; it's all one solid piece. Well that is what is symbolized by the solid piece of garment is the fact that we're suppose to be consistent. We shouldn't have a lot of seams in our life, we shouldn't have seamy lifestyle. The Bible talks about how we should be like the cloak which Christ, you all remember, do you all remember that the cloak of Christ at the crucifixion had no seams. Did you know that? Jesus wore a seamless garment. And that's why the soldiers said, let's not ripe up this garment because it's a seamless, it's a perfect garment, let's go ahead, and they cast lots for it, So we have that casting of lots as the way they were going to do it. But here we have this garment and it is seamless, so folks, let me encourage you to have a consistent lifestyle at home. To be consistent with your children, to be consistent in your love, consistent in your direction consistent in your teaching. If you're going to get with your children in the morning and just read Bible verses and talk to them about it, whatever you do for devotions, be consistent. Because if you do it for a week and quit, guess what that will teach your children. You're not consistent, its ok, to be inconsistent because, Mom and Dad, they're

not consistent either. Be consistent in the way that we lead our children. The third thing is this; there is the girdle, that's what this is called. A girdle equals truth, Now, let me just tell you what's important about this, you've heard of other girdles that they sell over here at stores. It's not the same kind of girdle, though it has kind of the same kind of idea. What does a girdle do, in general it holds everything together. Right? Amen. That's the purpose of a girdle, to hold everything together, well this girdle on the outside, is tied and holds all these pieces that he's wearing together. Now I find that very interesting considering that it's in the New Testament where it says the girdle of truth, Ephesians 6, in fact if you want to write that down, just make a scribble a little note. Ephesians 6:14, says this, it talks about have your loins girded about with truth. Now I can't tell you how important it is as a society that we get back into the concept of truth. Because we're living as society where as we said before, lies are acceptable as long as you get away with them. Where we see people committing perjury. Where we see people lying under oath. Where we see people stealing, embezzling and as long as they get away with it, they're the heroes of the story. That's really a very sad, sad issue. The girdle represents truth and it was called, Josephus said that it was four fingers broad, Josephus of course writing in the first century and so there's a good chance that this is very close to it I'll give you just a historical example and this is not a political statement. It genuinely isn't, but I think it's symbolic of what's happening in our culture. Nine years ago when Jennifer Flowers made a tape recording with Bill Clinton, she was very panicked on it because she had just been investigated and she said, you know what, I've got to tell you 'just had to lie to the Grand Jury, you told me what to say and they asked me questions in such a way I lied to the Grand Jury. And Mr. Clinton's response to her was, good for you- Now let me encourage

you, if his life is unraveling right now, I don't think it's because of attacks, it's because, the Bible teaches that if your life is not lived by truth, if it's lived by lies, inevitably all the pieces fall apart. And in society if your culture lives by lies and not by the truth, your society can only sustain, even commerce for so long, before it falls apart, Because after awhile, if you can't trust the label that says six ounces in this bottle, but it's really four and a half but they lied to you to sell you an extra ounce and a half of nothing but fantasy, after awhile the entire economy falls apart because economies are based upon truth- You all follow that? Entire societies, America was a miracle in my mind because, Christians could be trusted so commerce became a burgeoning, flowing, system based on trust. But if the word integrity is what I'm looking at, you know it's the same in math, the word integral, it is the basis of things. Integrity is critical because that's why you have the word "dis"integrity or disintegrates. When you don't have integrity, everything, dis-integrates or disintegrates, So today, in your life, in our family, let me encourage you, tell the truth and expect the truth from your children. Now if your children see you get on the phone and say one thing, see you say one thing on the phone, mom's or dads and hang up the phone because they know that you are lying, cause they know what was just said. Or if you tell your children, oh, tell them I'm not home. What you have trained them is lying is acceptable if it furthers your cause. Now, when you go into that child's rooms and you say have you done "a,b,c," he says I didn't do that and you find out later they did and you come and say how dare you lie to me. I tell you how dare they lie to you. Cause you just taught them the day before to lie. As you told them to tell that person on the phone you weren't there. Truth is integral. Listen carefully folks, truth is integral for a society to be sustained. I don't, in fact I've made it clear to all my employees, if I'm in and somebody

calls, this happened a few years ago, a new person had come in and was working and knew that I was working on a sermon and I understood that they had said, he's not in. And I said, let me tell you, you know that I'm in. She said, well that's what my old boss had me saying. Let me just tell you the truth, you never, ever, please, lie to anyone about anything, especially dealing with me. If I'm in and I'm busy working on the sermon, say, he's in and he's busy working on a sermon, But please, don't tell them that I'm not here, It's simply not true. Because I don't want that same employee in six months, if I tell them, hey tell them I'm not here, their going to look at me when I say to them, I've done the best I can to get you that raise, what's in the back of their mind, yeah, you're not here. Are you with me? Truth in our home is critical for the integrity of our home and for rearing our children, because our children learn- Let me just tell you, and that's why I think Christianity is so powerful a tool. I want to read you a true story. Standing in line with his squad in the Red Army, a fellow by the name of Tovey, had already made up his mind that he was going to say when the officers came toward him. You see that day the officers where checking and going down the line in the Soviet army, the Red Army and asking the question, are you a Christian? Are you a Christian, are you a Christian? And over and over the scripts and the conscripts were saying no, no, no, no, down the line, But here was this 18 year old who had been drafted into the Red Army, by occupying Red troops, and here came, finally the questions nearer and nearer. He had no doubt what he was going to say, so when the officer reached his place, the officer said to him, sir are you a Christian? Without flinching Tovey said, yes. And he knew what had happened to Christians. He'd heard the stories of the Gulag and the Archipelago and all the horrific stories of murders and Christians being taken away, but it didn't matter to him. He stood

there and he said absolutely yes. They said, then come with us. And he followed them. He knew that God would bless him no matter what happened. Even if it was with death, they he had glorified Jesus' name. They got in the vehicle and they drove to the building that housed the kitchen and the mess hall, he had no idea what was going transpire but he obeyed their orders. The officers said to him, we're taking you out of combat preparation, you're a Christian and because of that we're going to put you in the kitchen. And he wondered what kind of punishment are they going to put me in there for. And they continued to say, because we happen to know that you won't steal. The biggest black market in this entire operation of the Red Army is smuggling illegal sale of food to hungry civilians and soldiers and to tell you the truth, you about the only person we can trust in this kitchen. So they put him in charge of the kitchen, in charge of all the food. And I want to tell you something, what they realized at that moment, is what I think Marxism and every other anti-Christ, legislation that is in government needs to understand, is that quite frankly, if you want to keep solidity in your nation, in your family, in your lives, there has to be the accountability of God himself. Amen. And so that's a powerful story. It tells us a whole lot about even what they recognize. The next thing is the miter. Number four the miter. This miter represents the mind, having the mind of Christ, White means, once again, what does white mean, purity. So, here we have purity on the mind and on the heard of this priest. Folks we have to have pure minds, if you turn around for just a second and stand still, there is his blue sash which attached, it went around the head, and it attached this gold in the front, which we'll tell you about in a second, and it was blue. So, what does blue mean? It means heaven. It means heaven Say blue means heaven. Blue means heaven or deity. What it's talking

about, we should have heavenly minds. You see it's wrapped around the brain. Our thinking, we should have heavenly minds, we should have heavenly minds, frankly that are pure. And of course, there was this piece on the front which said, Holy unto the Lord. We'll talk about that in a second. Next comes the robe, the blue robe. It's a heavenly covering. You see this folks, it's blue. We know that blue means heaven. It's covering his whole body. This is seamless as well. It covers his whole body- So what is that saying. It means, folks that you're covered. We talked about covering on atonement. When a guy is going to go and he's running, the troops, the enemy is shooting at him, he says, guys do what? Get your guns and cover me. What does that mean? Protect me as I go. Put a hail of fire against the enemy as I run across the gorge, right. Isn't that what it means to get a cover? Well, blue means the same thing. Heaven is covering you folks. The Bible teaches, how many of you believe that there are angels that actually watch over your children? Raise your hand if you believe that. Let me tell you, angels also watch over you. According to the book of Ephesians are watching you every single day. They're learning from God by what you do. You have a heavenly covering. So when you wake up in the morning, you ought to yell to the Lord, Lord, cover me and go for it. Go into the day yelling cover me Lord. Because he has a heavenly covering for you and me. And that is a confidence that you and I should have. When you see this blue, you should say I'm confident, I've got that covering. I've got a heavenly covering. He's going to put a hail of bullets against the enemy. He's going to put the darts back in their faces and he's going to protect me. Amen. Praise God that that is the God who we have. He will assault the enemy and he will assault the gates of hell itself. The next thing that you see here is the Diadem, the Diadem. This is holiness unto the Lord. This is a Diadem and it's made out

of pure gold and the phrase, holiness unto the Lord, or sanctified unto the Lord is engraved on it. The fact that it is gold, gold stands for purity. The engraving stands for permanence. And on the front of the forehead, this will always be in front of us. We will always, as we go forward, have in front of us, reminding us, we're sanctified for God. And also, the first thing that people will see when they look at you is that you are sanctified for God- There used to be a little box, which I talked to you all about in the past. And it's a wonderful little thing, a phylactery, which sat with Bible verses and they used to hang it on the front, the priest used to hang it on the front of their forehead so that they could glance up and always see that box and be reminded of the word of God should always precede them. What a wonderful tool to remember. But I think of something else when I think of this, it's a mark that's on his forehead. Now, think a second, it's a mark on that's on this forehead. Where else do you see a mark on a forehead, ladies and gentlemen? It's called the Mark of the Beast. Satan is going have a mark on the forehead of those who follow him and who are unholy to the devil. But this is holy unto the Lord. In other words, everybody's going have a mark of some sort, the question is are you going have a mark that says holy unto the Lord or are you going live with a mark that says unholy to the devil because there's not third option. That's all there is to it. There's no third option. There's a place where Cain in the Old Testament, you remember, he got a mark. God gave Cain this mark. But it wasn't a punishment, it was actually a blessing. In fact, God was showing grace to Cain when he gave him the mark because the mark, God said; when anybody saw the mark they would not take revenge or kill Cain because God would protect him. Have you ever wondered what that mark said? I would theorize, it's a good possibility that it said something like this, Holy are set apart, basically, God's

property, don't touch. And when people saw Cain, and they saw that it said God's property, don't touch. Wow, don't mess with that guy. And that's exactly what God wants in your life and mine... It should say, God's property, don't touch. I teach my daughters and my sons this concept early on, from the time that they're five years old that that's how they're going date. When they date, when they court, it means, that it's going be God's property don't touch. Reminds me about the story about the girl that this guy, asked her out, they were in high school together. And he asked her out on a date. And they were walking along, he says, you know I got to tell you the truth- You know I used to date, Kathy, you know Kathy? She goes, yeah, I know Kathy. that, Kathy, I tell you was a pretty spooky date, she had these four great big brothers, I mean they were big mean looking guys- They used to freak me out and every time I thought I had to go through them to get near Kathy. And he was talking about these brothers and he said, so would you go out with me? She says, ok, Friday you can pick me up for the Valentine's Day banquet or whatever, at the church. So Friday comes and he picks her up and when she gets into his car, she drops the Bible in between the two of them. And he says, what's that all about, she says, well to get to me you got to go past Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, Jeremiah. But that's exactly what God wants us in the home to be training our children. Holy unto the Lord, or another way of saying it, God's property, don't touch. And that is what sanctification is about, God says, I set you apart for my purposes. In the book of Revelation, chapter 9 it talks about during a time, as the vials and the torments are being poured out and that those who have the mark of God on their foreheads can't be touched. In other words, ladies and gentlemen, the reason you can't be touched is because you're in His arms. You're sanctified, your holy, you're set apart. But you got to live your life,

and train your children to be unique in Christ Jesus to have that kind of power in your home. You can trust your children; your children can trust you. Because find wear the same mark on your forehead the next thing is this, is the breast plate. Now this is a very fascinating thing. First of all the breast plate is located over the heart there are twelve stones here. You all know what the twelve stones stand for? Twelve - tribes. Excellent. So we have the twelve tribes and engraved on each one of the stones, is the names of each one of the twelve tribes- Now this is a neat study and I don't have a whole lot of time to go into it, but I find this to be one of those fascinating, multidimensional things in scripture that we don't always get to spend a whole lot of time on, but the inscriptions of course are over the heart. And as you study God's word, you find where the Bible talks about how God's word is inscribed in our heart How we're inscribed on God's heart and here over the heart of the priest was the inscription, which is a beautiful parallel, the inscription of Israel's names. But would you read Jeremiah with me. It's underneath the breastplate there, just Jeremiah 31, but this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel. I will put my law in their mind and write it in their hearts. God wants his law written on our hearts. Because he loves us and we're written in his heart now the neat thing is, there are a couple of things that came with it. Would you say, Urim and Thummim with me- Urim and Thummim, now these are mysterious stones, which a lot of theologians have written articles on guessing what these stones are or what the Urim and Thummim is. Now I just want to touch base on it today, because it comes down to once again, El Roi, the God who sees. God saw everything happening in Israel, but he just didn't see the bad stuff they were doing, he saw the good stuff they were doing- He saw the potential of what they could do, he saw the future of what they would be. Now, when

God looks at us folks, he sees a lot. He just doesn't see your sin, he doesn't just see the good stuff, he sees who you could be He sees where you could be at. He sees what you will be doing some day. He sees it all. He sees your past, he see your present, be sees your future, He sees your potential; He sees any opportunity you have. He sees it all.

Now, mom and dad, one of the calls we have, parenting a home as we said last week, to keep our eyes open, to see what's going on. You may have been raised in a household where you have, an energetic child, When you look at that energetic child, you think of good grief, this hyperactive child, you think what a headache, This energetic, bouncy child, what a headache. Or you can see that as, boy what a blessing, because this energy timed toward the kingdom of God would be awesome. It's all in how you see it. And God obviously sees things where he takes what looks like a downside, he turns it to what I call "benny", or a benefit that's how we're supposed to be as parents, Look at our children and see the benefit of what they have. Now this is a very supernatural thing, he's going to pull out some stones in his hand in a second. The Urim and Thummim are believed by some to be stones perhaps that were hidden behind the breast plate and these stones which are hidden behind the breastplate, whenever a high priest wanted to talk with God, he would commune with God and God would tell him if there were dilemmas in the camp or what His will was. Now let me just tell you something very quickly. You know, when it comes to being able to foretell the future, you see these people on television reading these Tarot cards - it's demonic. And most of it's a con anyway. There was a Christian school teacher, the children had talked about that they saw this lady on television that was reading tarot cards all the time. So, one day the teacher finally decided to deal with the situation. So the children are at school and the teacher says superstitions aren't really

healthy to have, I mean can people really predict the future with cards? And of course she expected all the children, being Christians in the school, to agree with her. One little boy says, yes they can. The teacher responds what, what do you mean Johnny? He goes, yeah, people can predict the future with cards, and she goes, well Johnny, that's not right. He goes, yeah, it is. She answers really, how? He responds, well, I know my mother can. This is what she does. She takes one look at my report card and tells me exactly what my Dad's going to do when he gets home, Well, that's a different kind of card, but the thing is, the Urim and Thummim were supernaturally given by God, some theologians believe that the Urim and Thummim were somehow inside this breastplate,