

PRIESTHOOD

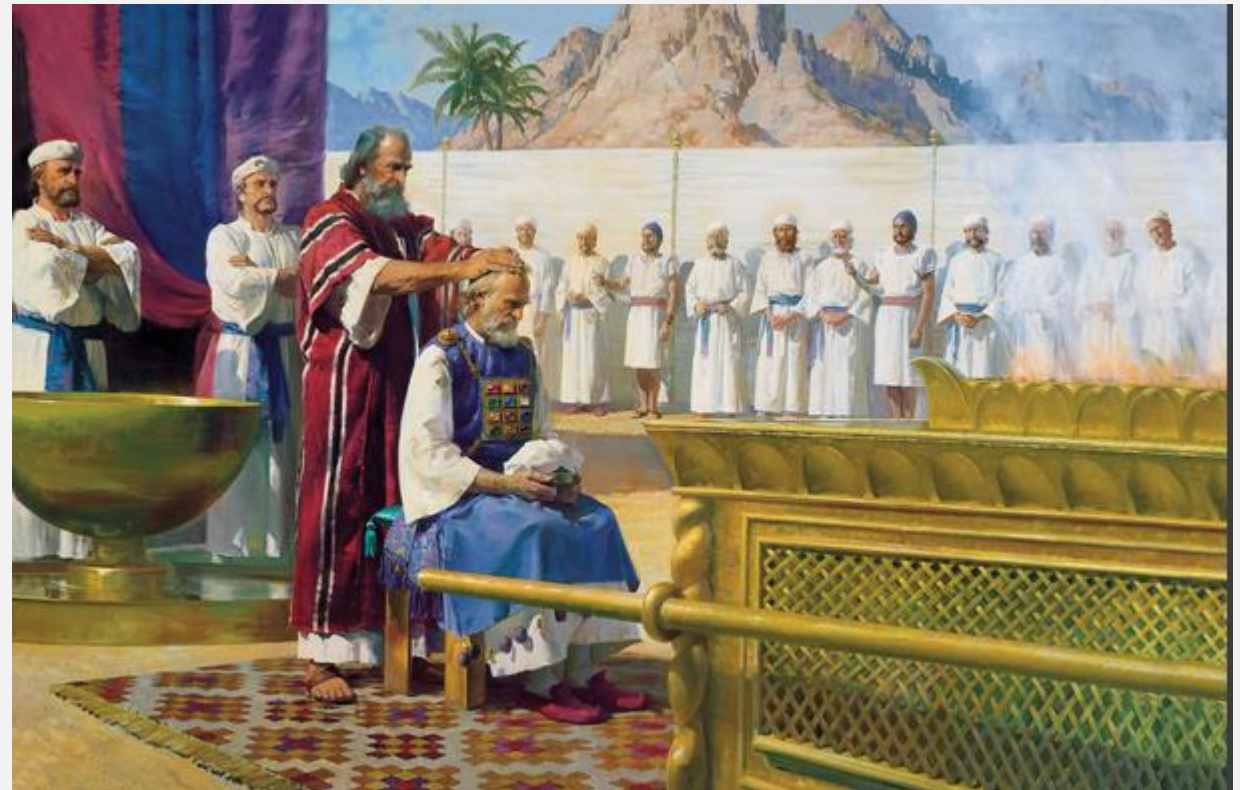
The Priest and our Lord Christ

“For the lips of a priest should keep knowledge, and people should seek the law from his mouth for he is the messenger of the Lord of hosts.” Malachi 2:7

GOD CREATED PRIESTHOOD

PRIESTHOOD IN THE OLD TESTAMENT

- God chose and separated to Himself men to serve Him.
- Representatives on behalf of the people before God.
- Dedicated to the work of God and later in the temple.
- Offered sacrifices on behalf of the people for their sins.
- Taught people God's laws.
- Confined to the **tribe of Levi**.



MOSES CALLS AARON TO THE MINISTRY

GOD CREATED PRIESTHOOD

PRIESTHOOD IN THE NEW TESTAMENT

- **Jesus is our High Priest.** He said “for their sakes I sanctify* Myself, that they also may be sanctified by the truth” Jn (17:19).
- Christ chose the 12 disciples and gave them authority and the Holy spirit as an ordination before Pentecost.
- He told them, “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and of the Holy Spirit” (Mt 28:19).
- He gave them the mystery of the holy Eucharist.

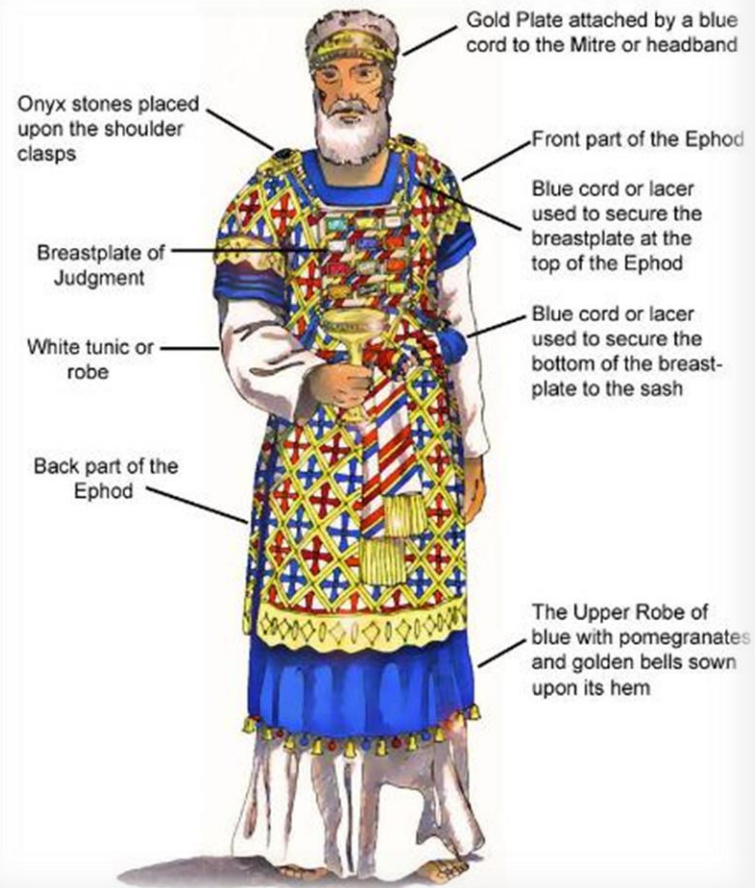


“HE BREATHED ON THEM, AND SAID TO THEM, RECEIVE THE HOLY SPIRIT. IF YOU FORGIVE THE SINS OF ANY, THEY ARE FORGIVEN THEM; IF YOU RETAIN THE SINS OF ANY, THEY ARE RETAINED (JOHN 20:22-23)

* Sanctify means to consecrate

PRIESTHOOD VESTMENTS & GARMENTS

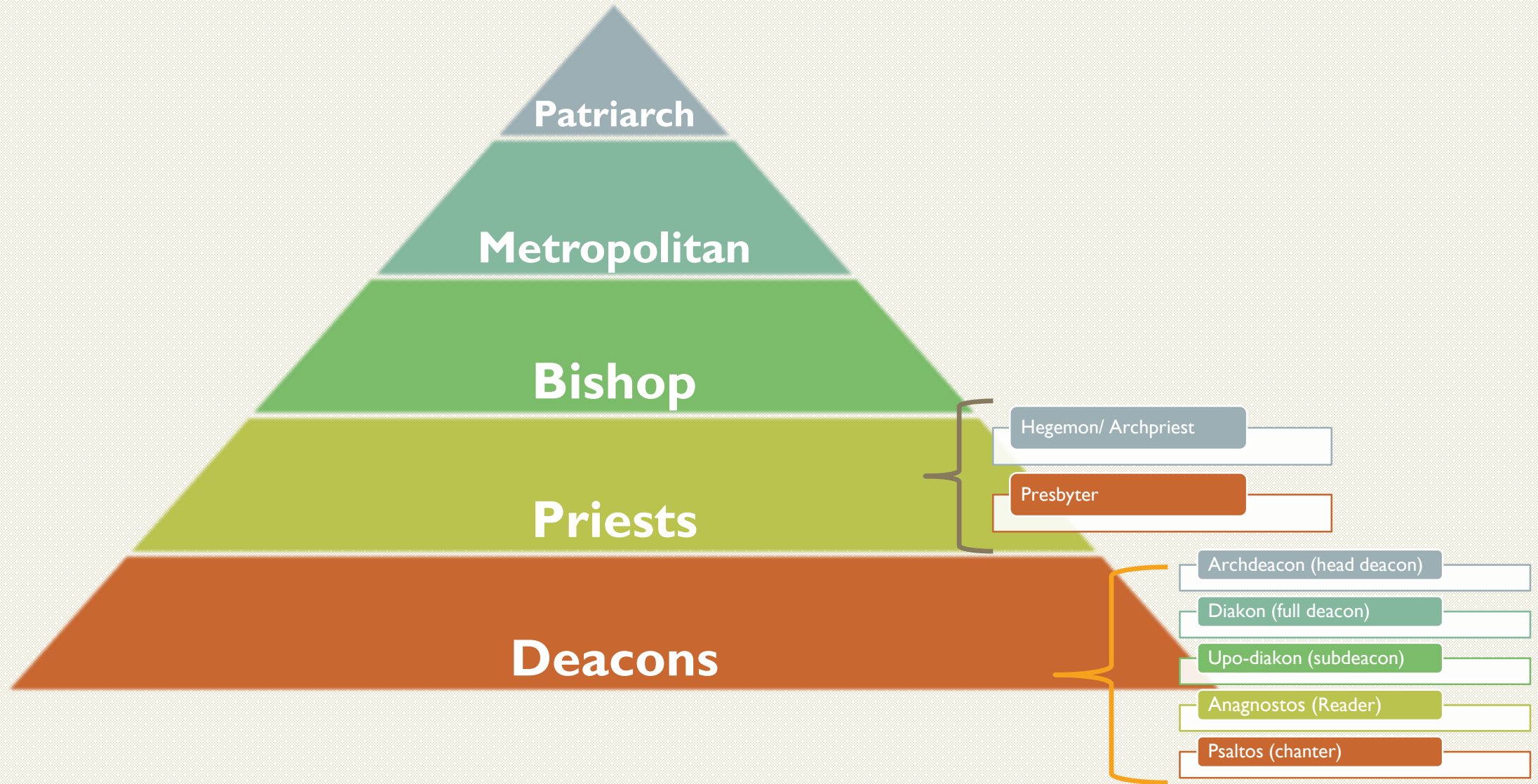
IN THE OT GOD HAD SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE PRIESTS' VESTMENTS AND GARMENTS FOR HONOR AND FOR BEAUTY - EXODUS 28



IN THE NEW TESTAMENT THE VESTMENTS OF THE CLERGY HAVE MANY SYMBOLS



THE PRIESTHOOD RANKS



Priesthood is one of the 7 Sacraments



ROLE OF THE PRIEST IN THE CHURCH

(IN ADDITION TO THE SACRAMENTS)

Pray for the people

Teach by good example & preaching the Word of God

Work for achieving the food of eternal life which does not perish in the lives of those he serves

Care for the congregation as a father

St. John Chrysostom: "For the priestly office is indeed discharged on earth, but it ranks amongst heavenly ordinances; and very naturally so: for neither man, nor angel, nor archangel, nor any other created power, but the Paraclete Himself, instituted this vocation, and persuaded men while still abiding in the flesh to represent the ministry of angels"

LIFE APPLICATION

Without Priesthood we won't be able to confess our sins and be forgiven through the mystery of confession

Without Abouna we won't be getting communion and receiving Jesus which help us grow in virtue and become the best version of ourselves

Without Abouna we won't have a spiritual father and teacher that cares about our salvation and is willing to answer all of our questions

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