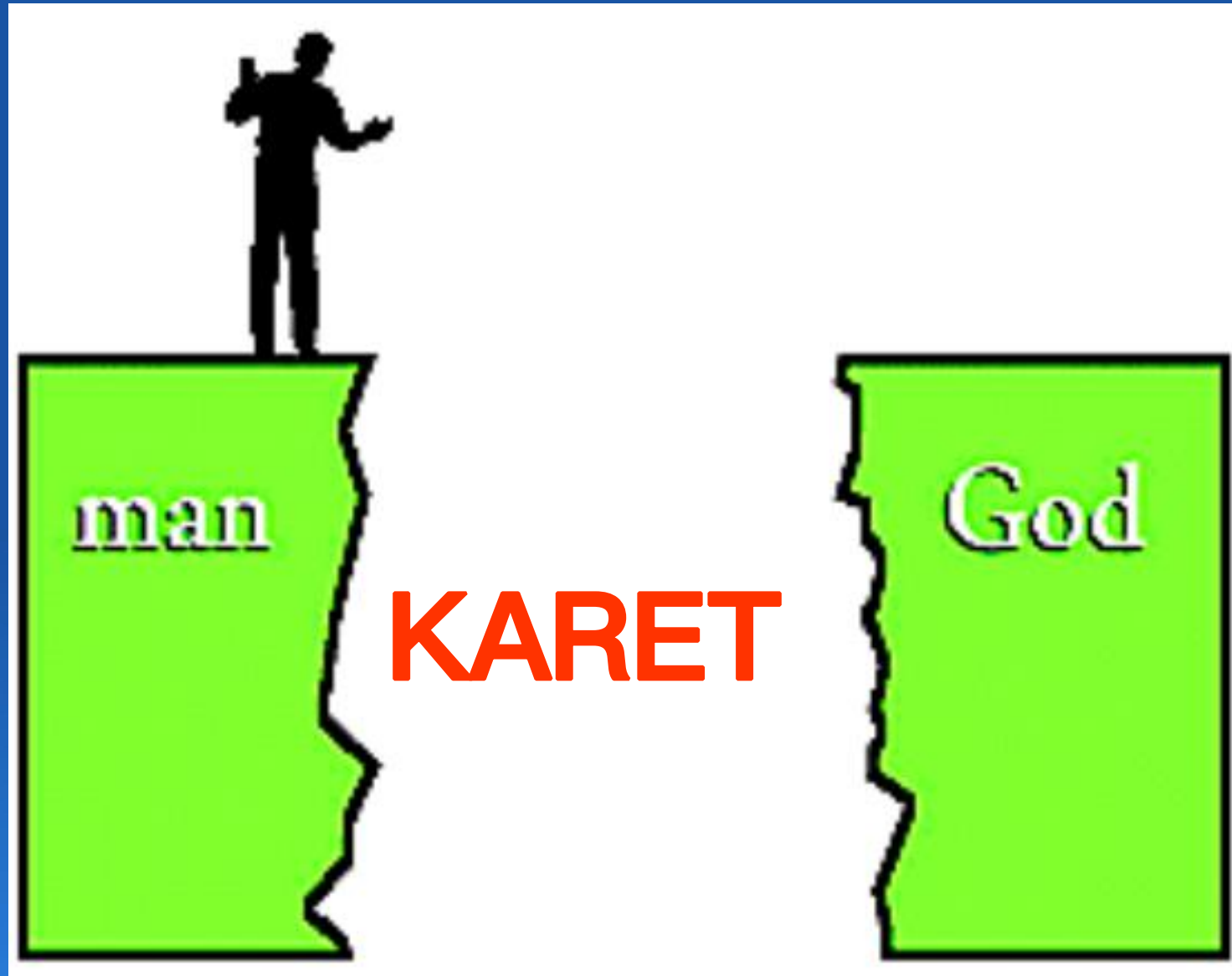


NUMBERS 15: CUT-OFF





TZITZIT

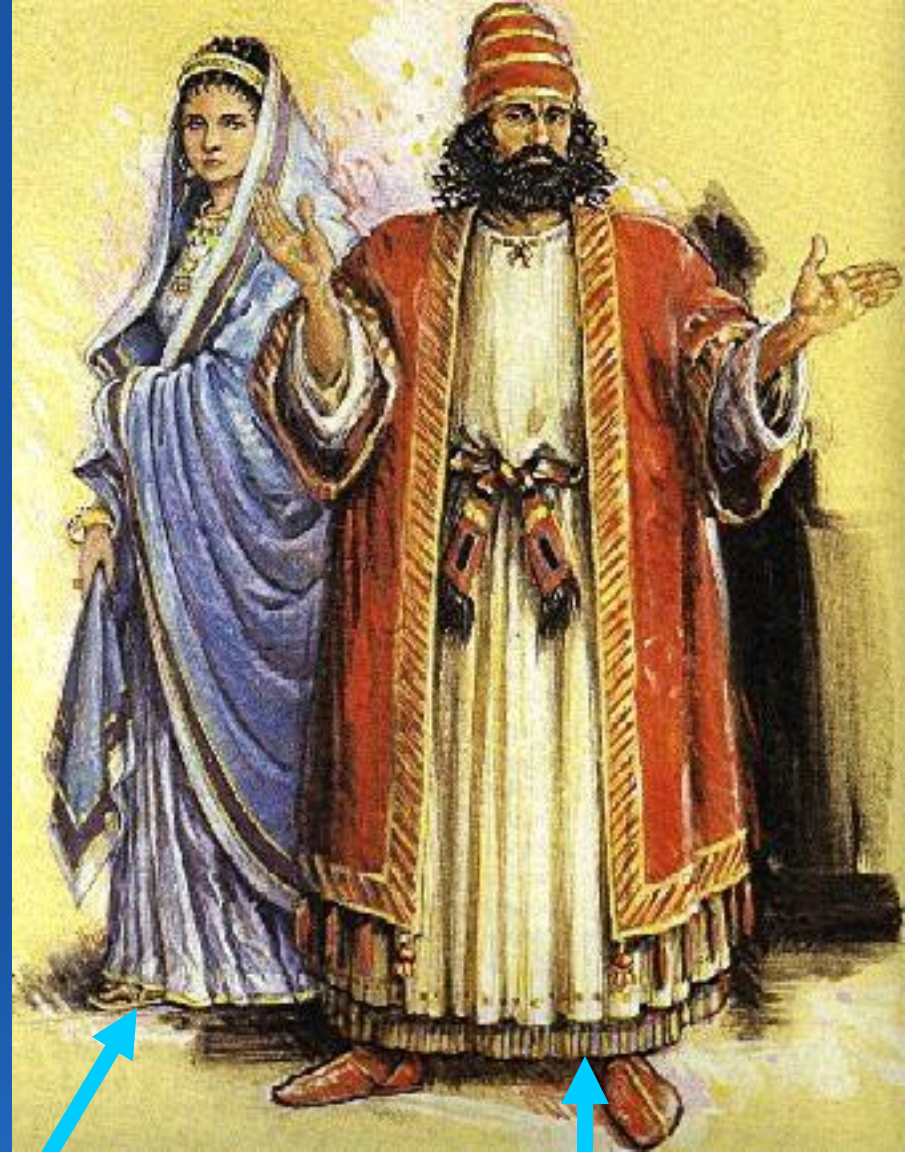
“LOCK OF HAIR”



- Not a new invention
- Purpose of Tzitzit was unique to Hebrews
- Tzitzit were to be a reminder of God's Laws
- Most of HOW Tzitzit are made and worn are TRADITION
- Hem

HEMS AS STATUS SYMBOLS

- Hems were seen as an extension of one's personality and authority
- Americans use cars and designer clothes as symbols of status and personality
- Christians wear Crosses, Stars of David, or use bumper stickers



GARMENT HEMS

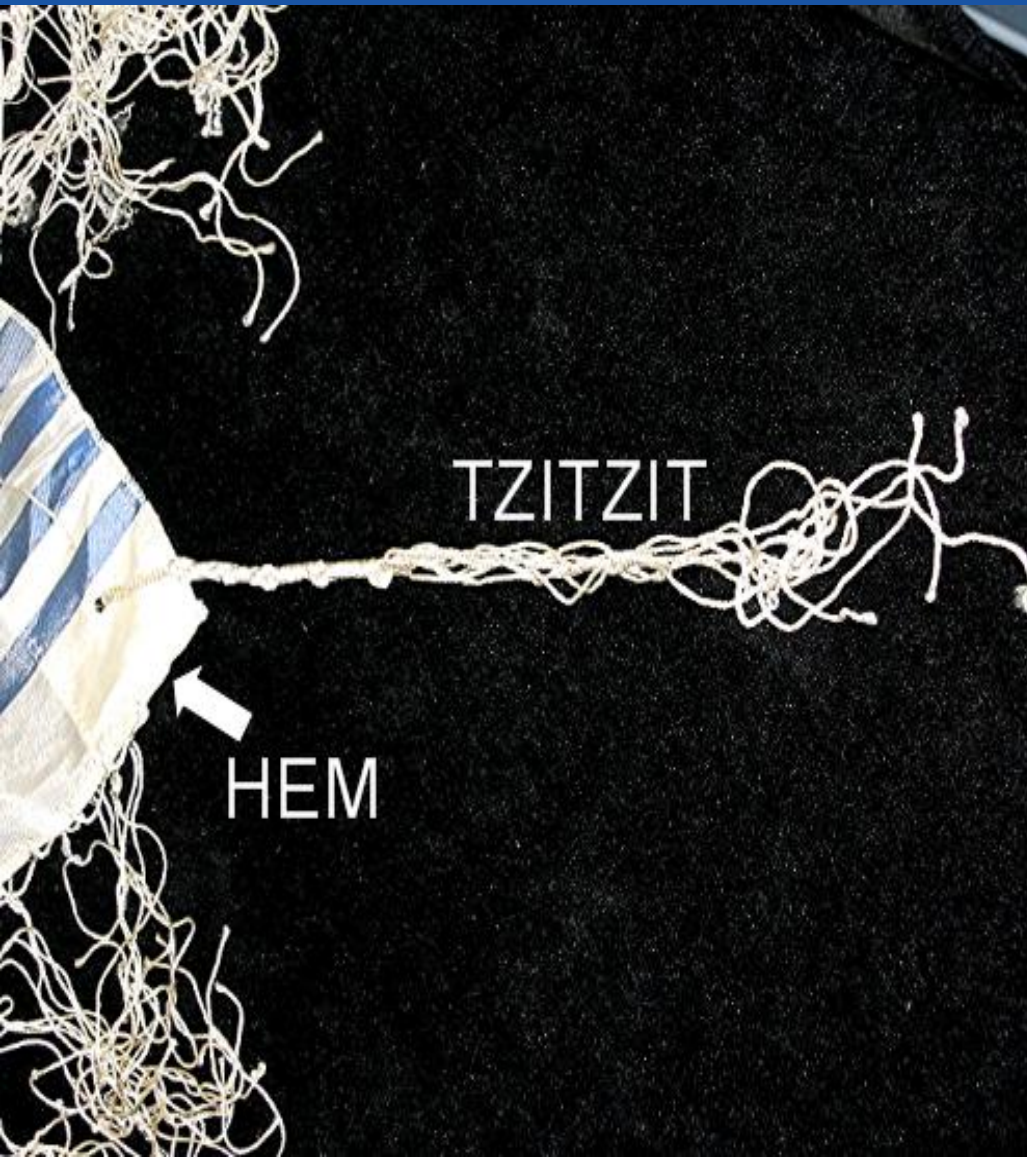
PURPLE

THE COLOR OF ROYALTY



- Hems and colors were like I.D.
- Purple as a color of royalty transcends cultures
- Mesopotamia: seer was required to write down his vision, present to King with lock of hair and piece of hem as a guarantee of reliability

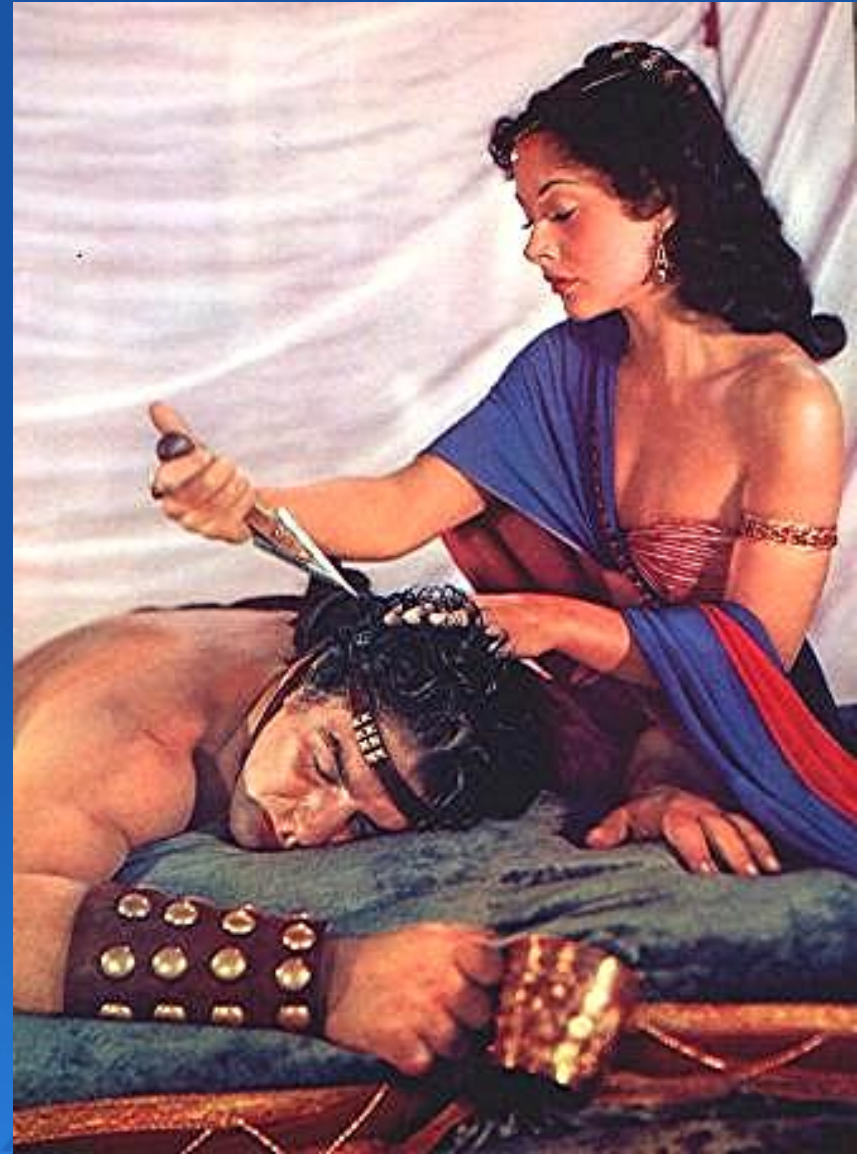
TZITZIT ARE AN EXTENSION OF THE HEM



- To be worn on the **CORNERS** of the garment
- ***Kanaf*** = extremity or wing
- David cuts the hem off of Saul's garment
- "Lord forbid....."
- "Now I know you will become King"

SAMSON'S 'LOCKS OF HAIR' LIKE TZITZIT

- Saul's hem was his authority symbol
- For both Saul and Samson, their "Tzitzit" were where their authority and power was derived
- When Saul's hem was cut, and Samson's hair was cut, their connection with the divine was severed
- Cut-off = karet



TEKHELET



- Tekhelet is the blue thread, made of wool
- MUST be royal purple/blue
- Dye made from Murex snail

PROHIBITION AGAINST MIXTURE OF FABRICS

- Rabbis say Tzitzit made of MIXTURE of wool and linen
- ***Sha'atnez*** = mixture of fabrics (materials)
- Has been verified that ancient Jews used sha'atnez to make Tzitzit
- God says do not mix because:
 - 1) ***tevel*** = confusion
 - 2) ***sha'atnez*** ONLY allowed for Priestly garments (certain ones)

DEUT. 22:9

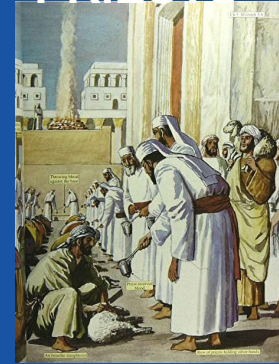
“...increase become defiled..”

- Word translated HERE as defiled is *qadash*
- *Qadash* = holy, set apart, separate (for God)
- Rashi, Ibn Ezra and other great Rabbis say this
- Ex. 39:28-29: ***“.... Of fine twisted linen, and blue, purple, and scarlet material....”***
- Rabbis say the “and” means another material
- That material is wool
- All ancient Hebrew documents currently known that describe priestly garments and Tzitzit verify the use of linen and wool together

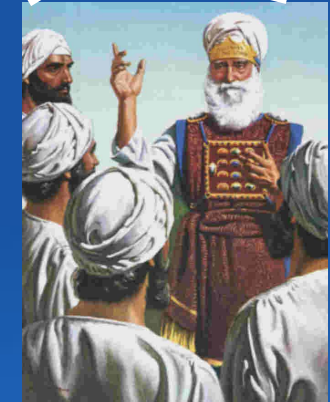
HIGH PRIEST



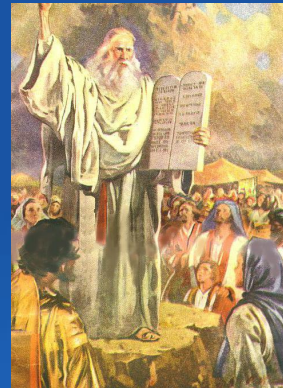
**ORDINARY
PRIESTS**



AARON



MOSES



**MUSICIANS
GUARDS
LABORERS
SINGERS
TEND FIRES
FILL WATER BASINS
ALL OTHER LEVITES**



TRIBE OF LEVI



➤ GRADATIONS OF HOLINESS

➤ High Priest, sha'atnez HIGH (head)

➤ Regular Priest, sha'atnez MIDDLE (waist)

➤ Israelite, sha'atnez LOW (knee)

Blue thread = royalty

White threads = priesthood



TALLITH

- First tallith were rectangular pieces of cloth with a head-hole, Tzitzit attached
- Later was prayer shawl style
- Both in use today, depending on sect's preferences



JESUS WORE TZITZIT

- Matthew 9:20 “.....a woman.....touched the fringe of his cloak...”
- Matthew 14:34 “.....all who were sick.....might just touch the fringe of his coat.....”
- Women were allowed and still do, wear Tzitzit



ARE TZITZIT FOR CHRISTIANS?



- *Rev.1:4 “.....made us into a kingdom of priests...”*
- How literally do we take this?
- 1) It is NOT wrong.
- 2) INTENT is important.
- 3) NOT for getting saved OR for staying saved!
- Verse 39:

look → recall → observe