

JOURNEY WITH THE RABBI — SOURCE SHEET

From Scarlet to White *Why Stripping Precedes True Clothing*

PRIMARY TEXT

Matthew 27:27–31 TLV

“Then the governor’s soldiers took Yeshua into the Praetorium and gathered the whole cohort around Him.

They stripped Him and put a scarlet robe around Him.

And after braiding a crown of thorns, they placed it on His head and put a staff in His right hand.

And falling on their knees before Him, they mocked Him, saying, ‘Hail, King of the Jews!’

They spat on Him, and they took the staff and beat Him over and over on the head.

When they finished mocking Him, they stripped the robe off Him and put His own clothes back on Him.

And they led Him away to crucify Him.”

KEY OBSERVATION

Not random cruelty.

This is **inverted coronation**.

Rome thinks:

A false king is being mocked.

Heaven declares:

The true King is being revealed.

INSTALLATION PATTERN (TORAH)

When a king or priest is installed:

- Gathering
- Clothing
- Symbolic action

THE REVERSAL

Aaron clothed in glory → Yeshua stripped in shame

Kings crowned with gold → Yeshua crowned with thorns

“The Holy One hides glory inside disgrace.” (Midrashic principle)

THE PATTERN OF STRIPPING IN SCRIPTURE

1. ADAM — THE FIRST STRIPPING

Genesis 2–3

Before sin:

- Naked
- Not ashamed

After sin:

Genesis 3:7

- Awareness
- Exposure

Nakedness becomes:

- Shame
- Vulnerability
- Separation

God's Response

Genesis 3:21

“The Lord made garments... and clothed them”

Key Insight

Self-covering fails

God-provided covering restores

Hebrew Movement

אור (Or – light) → עור (Or – skin)

From:

- Glory → concealment
- Eternal → mortal

2. JOSEPH — THE STRIPPED SON

Genesis 37

Genesis 37:23

“They stripped Joseph of his tunic.”

Genesis 37:31

“They took Joseph's tunic... dipped it in blood.”

Pattern:

- Stripped
 - Rejected
 - Covered in blood

Meaning

Stripping =

- Loss of identity
- Entry into suffering
- Beginning of redemption

Rabbinic Echo

“The stripping of Joseph begins his descent for the sake of redemption.”

Midrash Genesis Rabbah 84:8

3. ZECHARIAH — GARMENTS REMOVED

Zechariah 3:3–4

“Remove the filthy garments... I have taken away your iniquity”

Rabbinic Parallel

“Sin clings to a man like a garment.” Talmud Bavli Yoma 67b

Pattern

Garments = sin

Removal = forgiveness

Reclothing = restoration

4. YESHUA — THE FINAL REVERSAL

Matthew 27:28

“They stripped Him”

Isaiah 53:4–6

“He has borne our griefs... the LORD laid on Him the iniquity of us all.”

Rabbinic Echo

Sanhedrin 98a

The Messiah is described as bearing suffering, iniquity of us all.”

THE GREAT EXCHANGE

Everyone else:

Receives garments

Yeshua:

Loses them

THE DEEPEST INSIGHT

In every other case:
Garments cover sin

With Yeshua:
He becomes the covering

2 Corinthians 5:21

“He made Him who knew no sin to be sin...”

Rabbinic Concept

Sifra Acharei Mot

“Israel’s sins are placed upon the head of the scapegoat.”

THE TURNING POINT

Yeshua becomes:

- The covering
- The righteousness
- The atonement

APOSTOLIC FULFILLMENT

Romans 13:14

“Put on the Lord...”

Galatians 3:27

“Clothed in Messiah”

Meaning

Garment is no longer external

It becomes **identity**

THE SCARLET MYSTERY

Isaiah 1:18

“Though your sins are like scarlet... they shall become white”

WHAT IS SCARLET?

שָׁנִי (Shani)

Represents:

- Sin
- Blood
- Humanity
- Desire

THE DYE REALITY

Scarlet dye:

- Comes from a worm (תולע)
- Penetrates deeply
- Bonds into fabric

Spiritual Meaning

Not surface sin

But:

- Pattern
- Habit
- Identity-level brokenness

THE REVERSAL AT THE CROSS

Before:

We wear scarlet

At the cross:

He wears it

2 Corinthians 5:21

“He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us...”

THE PRINCIPLE

He becomes what He redeems

Not to be corrupted

But to transform from within

TORAH CONNECTIONS TO SCARLET

1. LEVITICUS 14 — CLEANSING

Leviticus 14:4-7

Cedar, hyssop, scarlet

Rabbinic Insight

Midrash Tanchuma, Metzora

Scarlet participates in transformation

Scarlet + hyssop + living water

Pattern:

- Death
- Cleansing
- Release

2. YOM KIPPUR

Scarlet thread on scapegoat

Leviticus 16:21–22

Confession over the goat

Rabbinic Expansion

Yoma 67a

The goat carries the sins away

Rabbinic Development

Mishnah Yoma 4:2

Scarlet thread tied to the scapegoat

Yoma 39a

The thread turns white

Insight

Scarlet = visible sin

White = divine acceptance

3. RAHAB

Joshua 2:18

“The scarlet cord”

Scarlet cord = salvation marker

INSIGHT

Scarlet becomes:

- Sin marker
- Atonement sign
- Covenant signal

FINAL PATTERN

Man loses covering
God provides covering
Messiah becomes the covering

WHY STRIPPING PRECEDES TRUE CLOTHING

1. FALSE COVERINGS MUST BE REMOVED

God does not add
He replaces

Genesis 3

Rabbinic Principle

Avot deRabbi Natan
God replaces what man constructs

2. EXPOSURE REVEALS TRUST

Psalm 32:3–5

“When I kept silent...”

Rabbinic Insight

Berakhot 5a
Affliction reveals the heart

What you run to
Is what you trust

3. REAL COVERING CANNOT BE EARNED

Isaiah 64:6

“Filthy garments”

Rabbinic Insight

Midrash Tehillim
Man’s merit is insufficient without mercy

Stripping leads to:

- Surrender
- Receiving

REVELATION — FINAL FULFILLMENT

Revelation 7:14

“They washed their robes... made them white

Revelation 19:8

“Fine linen...”

Rabbinic Parallel

Ecclesiastes Rabbah 9:8

“Let your garments always be white.”

FINAL SUMMARY

Adam — naked in sin

Joseph — stripped in suffering

Joshua — clothed in filth

Yeshua — stripped in righteousness

THE FINAL TRUTH

He was stripped

So you could be clothed

He wore the scarlet

So you could wear the white

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

What “coverings” do people rely on today instead of God?

Why is stripping necessary before true identity is restored?

What does it mean that Messiah became the covering?

Where do you see “scarlet” patterns in your own life?

What does it look like to be “clothed in Messiah” practically?

PERSONAL REFLECTION

What am I still trying to cover myself with?

What would it look like to let God replace it completely?

CLOSING DECLARATION

The scarlet is real

But the promise is greater

Scarlet becomes white