

COAT/TUNIC/GARMENT

The word כִּתְּוֹנֶת *kuttonet* occurs 29 times in the OT, and is translated *tunic* (20x), *garment* (6x), *coat* (2x) and *dress* (1x) by the NASB. The AV translates it *coat* (23x), *garment* (5x), and *robe* (1x). The NLT and NIV both translates it robe or tunic most often. It is used to refer to the garments worn by Adam and Eve (Gen. 3:21), Joseph (Gen. 37:3, 23, 31ff), the high priest and the priests (Exod. 28:4, 39f; 29:5, 8; 39:27; 40:14; Lev. 8:7, 13; 10:5; 16:4; Ezr. 2:69; Neh. 7:69, 71), Tamar (2 Sam. 13:18, 19), Hushai the Arkite (2 Sam. 15:32), Job (Job 30:18), Solomon's beloved (Sol. 5:3), and Eliakim, the son of Hilkiyah (Isa. 22:21). It could be made of skins (Gen. 3:21) as well as woven of fine linen (Exod. 28:4, 39). If modified by *passim* (פָּסִים), one interpretation is that this word indicates a wrist and ankle-length garment (Gen. 37; 2 Sam 13; BDB). The use of *passim* as a modifier suggests that the *kuttonet* did not ordinarily have sleeves to the wrist and hem to the ankles.

HALOT: meaning disputed, with uncertainty already in the versions: (1) a tunic made from different pieces of coloured material; similarly Speiser: a word to indicate decorative needlework on valuable garments. (2) a robe reaching right down to the ankles; more precisely, a garment reaching to the wrists and the ankles; see Pritchard *Pictures* page 14f for illustrations of Syrian dress, esp. plate 43. (3) a wrap-around garment, the overlapping layers of which seem like "tablets" (citation abbreviated).

Standard Lexical Definitions: **BDB**: tunic, principal ordinary garment of man and woman, worn next the person; **HALOT**: shirt-like tunic; **TWOT**: tunic, a long shirt-like garment, usually of linen.