

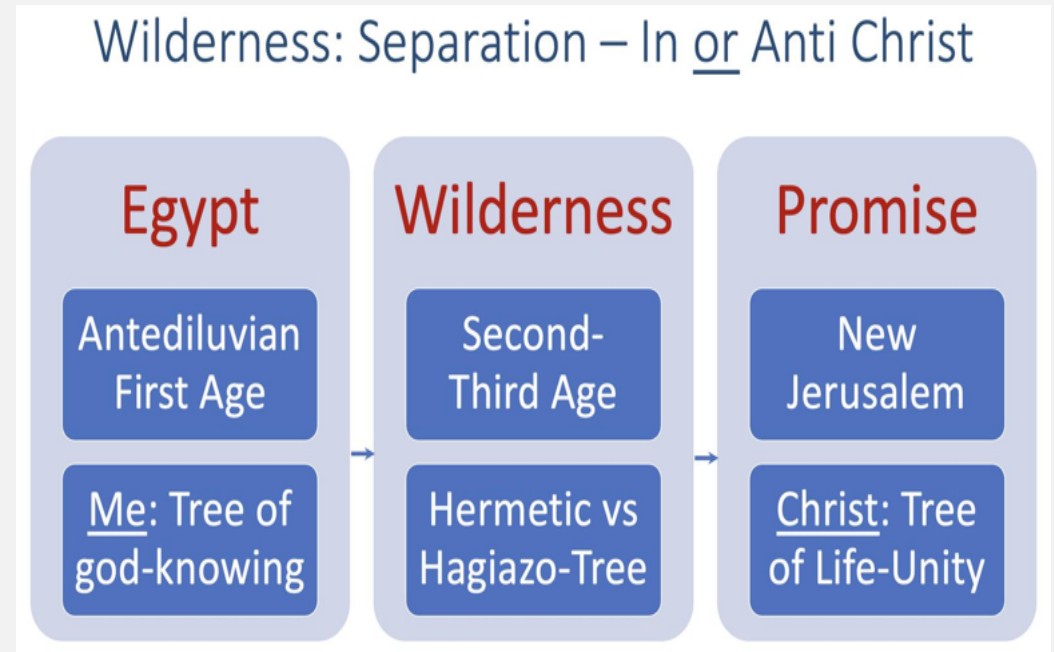
# REVELATION 54 – HOLINESS OF TRUE PRAYER

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Revelation 8:1-5



# PROLOGUE: HISTORY BUILDING TO SEVENTH SEAL – **WILLING** SEPARATION

- Egypt: Separating from Christ to be god
- Wilderness: Separation in the World
  - Hermeticism: One's Own *Knowing* (Ge 3:5)
  - Hagiazo: Christ in *His Knowing* (1Co 13:9-12)
- Promise: Permanent Separation-Judgment
  - Saved: Bema Seat (*First Death*) (2Co 5:10)
  - Lost: White Throne (*Second Death*) (Re 20:11-15)
- Eternal New Jerusalem-Creation:  
Permanent Separation from Sin (Re 22:12-15)



## SEVENTH SEAL: SILENCE OF MERCY

- Seventh Seal is Christ's response to sin and its attendant consequences
  - Christ shows mercy and long suffering, not willing any should perish (2Pe 2:19-21; 3:8-12)
  - Half a Period: End drawing closer; Christ gives Man finite time to repent (Ro 1:18-28)
- Man refuses to repent, corporately, though individuals are always *called*
  - Christ prepares for next sequence: Seven Trumpets
  - Seven {Completion in God} angels given seven trumpets; Duality: Intensified godliness
  - Trumpets announce: Pay attention to the next command: Assembly, Move, Hear, etc.
  - Trumpets display Man's impotence in Controlling Nature {God's Recalcitrant Reality}  
{Job 38-41: Last Book written recalls First Book written – Comes full Circle}

# THE GOLDEN ALTAR: INCENSE OF PRAYERS

- Golden Altar: Altar of Incense originally in Holy Place before the veil (Ex 30:1-10)
  - Hebrews places this altar in Holiest Place after Christ's sacrifice – High Priest (He 9:1-5)
  - At Christ's completed sacrifice, Temple veil rent showing end of Aaronic priesthood; i.e., beginning Christ's *Melchizedek's* Priesthood (Mk 15:37-38; Ep 2:11-22; He 5:5-10; 9:6-15, 23-26)
- Our prayers, communications with God, one of the most holy activities we do
  - High Priest entered Holiest Place surrounded by prayers: Incense censor (Le 16:12-14)
  - Prayers carried by Spirit to the Son even when we do not know what to say (Ro 8:23-27)
  - Incense always represents prayers to Father via Son; He only accepts prayers of Saved (Ps 141:2; Re 5:8)

## IMPROPER PRAYERS: AFFRONT TO GOD'S HOLINESS

- Father-Son-Spirit take prayers very seriously; more so than Christians
  - Strange Fire: Aaron's sons died by fire for offering *strange fire* censors to God; their unbelief prayers were unholy, though ritualistically correct (Le 10:1-11)
  - Korah's Rebellion: Other Levi branches disputed Moses'-Aaron's leadership; God demonstrated His choice by their censor offerings – Levi's who rebelled went alive to Hell while 250 unbelieving tribal leaders who offered censors killed by fire (Nu 16:1-35)
  - Uzziah's Offering: King became proud and offered incense in Holy Place; God struck him with leprosy {Sin} requiring a co-regent rulership (2Ch 26:16-21)
- Aaronic Priesthood failures in prayers and teaching people of God's holiness pervade Old Testament; been more honest to not fire the altar(s) (Mal 1:6-11)

# ANGEL OFFERS INCENSE: HOLINESS SHAKES THE EARTH

- Angel with censor given *incense* representing saint's prayers to offer to Father
  - No Bronze Altar in Heaven; only Golden Altar of Prayer, even Son's Prayers (Mt 26:36-45)
  - Saved Prayers resonate with Father's Will; *New Covenant Nature* (Mt 6:9-13; Jn 17:15-24)
- Angel throws *holy* prayers to earth filling earth with Father's holiness (Jn 17)
  - Satan's evil *appears* overarching but pales beside God's Recalcitrant Reality symbolized by Mount Horeb holiness effects : Lightning, Thunder, Earthquake(s) (Ex 19:16-18)
- Man experienced sin's consequences, Seal Effects, but remained in sin (Re 6:15-17)
  - Trumpets demonstrate Christ's will in Creation, impossible to ignore: Wilderness Self-Selection Process; If Man truly ecological, he would stop sinning: One with Nature is One with Christ as Nature eagerly awaits His Second Coming – Do You Also?  
(Ro 8:20-22; He 9:28)