

Hagia - A Key Word

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Hebrews chapter 9 - ta hagia: Greek words under consideration: ton, ta & to are the definite article, and the various forms of hagian.

ΤΩΝ ἁγίων [ton hagian - pl.] (literal = the holies) Heb 8:2; 9:8; 10:19, hagian is plural. 8:2 - the sanctuary = the holy places or holy things; 9:8 - the holiest of all = the holy places; 10:19 - the holiest = the holy (places)

ΤΑ ἁγία [ta hagia - pl.] (literal = the holies) Heb 9:12, 25; 13:11, hagia is plural. 9:12 - the holy place = the holy (places) [either compartment]; 9:25 - the holy place = the holy (places) [either compartment]; 13:11 - the sanctuary = the holy (places) [either compartment] {Bullock, Lev 4:12} & bullock & goat on day of atonement, body parts burned outside camp {Lev 16:27}

ΤΟ ἅγιον [to hagian - sing.] (literal = the holy) Heb 3:7; 9:1; 10:15, hagian is singular. Outside Hebrews, this word is used 23 times, mostly referring to the Holy Spirit - Mt 7:6 the exception. 3:7 - the Holy Ghost = the Spirit of the Holy One; 9:1 - sanctuary = *and also the sanctuary, a worldly one*; 10:15 - the Holy Ghost = the Spirit of the Holy (One) (double definite article)

ἁγία [hagia - pl.] (literal = holies) Heb 9:2, 24, is plural, used both singular and plural. 9:2 - the sanctuary = holies (used singular for the 1st compartment); 9:24 - holy (places) [both compartments] = a man-made sanctuary a figure of the true ones (inward temple 1 Cor 3:16). Christ entered the mind-set of His Father, which is in the heavens.

ἁγία ἁγίων [hagia hagian] (literal = holy of holies) Heb 9:3, hagia used in the singular. 9:3 - the holiest of all = holy of holies (2nd apartment containing the ark)

An area of misunderstanding is Heb 9:8-9: 8. *The Holy Ghost this signifying, that the way into the holiest of all was not yet made manifest, while as the first tabernacle was yet standing: 9. Which was a figure for the time then present, in which were offered both gifts and sacrifices, that could not make him that did the service perfect, as pertaining to the conscience; More accurate, with notes: The Spirit of the Holy One, this signifying that the way of the holy [places] (heavenly understanding) was not yet made manifest, while the first tabernacle (two compartment tent) was having a standing (still in effect), which was a figure (parable) for the time then present, in which were offered both gifts and sacrifices, that could not make him that did the service perfect, as pertaining to the conscience.*

Note: The earthly tabernacle remained in effect until Christ fulfilled its types on the cross. The holies (both apartments) are a figure of the mind of mankind with a veil of flesh preventing us from understanding spiritual things. The temple veil, rent when Jesus died, was a figure of the old man (carnal mind) being destroyed. Thus we have a picture of how man's mind can be purified by listening to the voice of the Spirit. His blood ratified the new covenant, which is God writing the spiritual understanding of the law in our hearts.

Heb 6:19-20: 19. *Which hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast, and which enters into that within the veil; 20. Whither the forerunner is for us entered, even Jesus, made an high priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec.* In type, Jesus entered the veil at the cross. (Cf Ex 26:33; Lev 16:2, 12, 15)