



# REVELATION 53 – WILDERNESS PROCESS OF SEPARATION

Dr. Leon L. Sanders  
Revelation 7:15-17

# THEREFORE, THEY: GREAT TRIBULATION FAITHFUL

- Therefore {διὰ τοῦτό}: Refers to those who remained faithful during the Great Tribulation; rejected The Lie choosing Christ vice Antichrist (vs. 14) (2Th 2:3-12; Re 13:13-17)
  - Jews-Gentiles? Probably a *mixed multitude*, but the emphasis appears Jewish with three references alluding to the Wilderness Journey (Ex 12:34-42)
- Placing this imagery before 7<sup>th</sup> Seal shows The Wilderness Journey (2<sup>nd</sup> Age} culminates in Accountability; Trumpets and Phials Judgments
  - Egypt: Antediluvian–Gnostic Hermeticism {Tree of Life Present} (Ge 3:22-24; He 11:8-10; Re 11:8)
  - Wilderness: Separation of Wheat {Saving Faith} from Tares {Hegelian Hermetic-Dialectic Kantianization}; *another bite of the Apple* {But, Search for *Knowing*} by Both (Mt 13:1-23 {Wheat-Tares}, 24-30 {Sower}; Ga 4:21-31; He 3:7-19)
  - Promised Land: Entering Christ's Eternal Rest – *New Jerusalem* for the Saved; the Lost die in the Wilderness without Christ as they desire {Lake of Fire} (Ro 1:18-28; He 4:1-11)

# BEFORE THE THRONE: TABERNACLED IN HIS PRESENCE

- Faithful before Father's Throne and Christ, 100% God, intervenes for them
  - Present tense: Current reward of their loving Christ unto Death (Mt 24:9; Re 2:10; 20:4)
  - Serve Him in His Temple in praise worship; Hence, Incense Altar in Holy Place (He 9:1-5)
- Future tense: He will shelter them by His Presence – New Jerusalem Eternity
  - Shelter, Tabernacle: Reminiscent of Wilderness Tabernacle and *contained* His Presence; Pillar – Cloud (Day) and Fire (Night) guiding them (Ex 13:21-22; 40:34-38)
  - Christ's Millennial Kingdom Temple *will* contain His Presence over Zion (Is 4:5-6)
  - Christ the Light of *New Creation, New Jerusalem, will* dwell with Man: Presence (Re 21:22-25)

## SITTING ON THE THRONE: FAITHFUL SATISFIED IN HUMILITY

- Christ, Father's Intercessor, protects His people from Second Death; but not necessarily Testing and Tribulation – Maturation {Hagiazo Process} (Ja 1:9-16; 4:1-10)
  - Hunger and Thirst recall waters of Massah and Meribah(s) in the drought ridden Wilderness; their faithlessness cf. Christ's faithfulness: Two Generations (Ex 17:1-7; Nu 20:2-13)
  - Separation Process runs through Judges, Old Testament and this Creation (Ps 107:33-43)
  - Faithful separated by this Process to Christ as they have passed the First Death
  - They epitomize Beatitudes; realized their true hunger and thirst: Christ (Mt 5:2-9)
- They come to their desired Haven after their Wilderness Process as will all who remain faithful (Ps 107:23-32; Ro 10:9-10)

## MIDDLE OF THE THRONE: LAMB SHEPHERDS HIS PEOPLE

- Lamb, 100% Man, is the centerpiece through whom salvation is possible
  - Jesus is the *Good Shepherd* who guides His flock He died to redeem (Ps 23; Jn 10:1-18)
- Jew's *Water Festival* {Booths} an empty ritual; Christ pointed them back to its true significance they should have learned at Meribah(s): Salvation (Jn 4:7-14; 7:37-39)
  - Spiritually represents indwelling Holy Spirit, *New Covenant* salvation (Je 31:31-34; 1Co 10:1-6)
- Spring of Water will flow from Throne of God in *New Jerusalem* (Re 22:1-5)
  - Waters Trees of Life freely available for all Saved {Twelve Fruits – Complete in Him}
  - No Darkness as Lamb is the Light that eternally guides all who want to see His face

# WIPE AWAY EVERY TEAR: UNDERSTANDING THE PROCESS

- *Wipe away every tear* denotes comfort; not amnesia\*
  - Hagiazos Process matures through every experience; skip one and no salvation (Is 25:6-9)
  - After First Death, each person will see how their experiences prepared them for their Desire Haven just as Christ accepted stauros for joy set before Him (He 12:1-2)
- **Selah: Meditate on the Lord's wisdom** (Ps 24; Col 2:6-15)
  - Christians who reject His Process, succumb to Hermetic-Dialectic Process: Laodicea
- **Wilderness Journey everyone takes – Self-selection; hence, accountability**
  - Lost use their Process to separate from the Saved: Self-select to Lake of Fire (He 3:7-16)
  - Saved seek the Lost to be a pathway of the Gospel: Self-select to New Jerusalem (Ro 10:14-17)

# 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)

