

θυμιατήριον (ヘブル9章4節) について

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ABSTRACT Akio ITO, “Concerning the θυμιατήριον (Heb. 9:4).” There are two issues concerning the θυμιατήριον in Heb. 9:4; the one concerns its reference, whether it refers to a censer or the altar of incense, and if the second is the correct reference, as is usually and here assumed, the other issue concerns its location. Heb. 9:4 is usually understood to state that the θυμιατήριον is located within the Holy of Holies while it is taken for granted that the altar of incense was placed before the second veil outside the Holy of Holies (Exod. 30:6; 40:5, 26 etc.). While it is true that the altar of incense was physically placed outside the Holy of Holies, a significant connection between the altar of incense and the Holy of Holies is clearly implied in some Old Testament passages (1Kings 6:22; Isa. 6 etc.) and some “apocalyptic” literature (Isa. 6:6; Syriac Baruch 6:7; 2Macc. 2:4, 5 etc.). We must also pay attention to the exact meaning of the wording of Heb. 9:4 in order to consider this issue. The word used (ἔχων) is, in fact, the present participle of the verb ἔχω (lit. “have”), which does not necessarily mean that the author of Heb. refers to the location of the altar of incense. Instead Heb. 9:4 could be understood as referring to that significant connection between the altar of incense and the Holy of Holies.