

On the Structure of George Herbert's The Temple (In Honour of Professor Yukito Nakano On the Occasion of His Retirement)

Onizuka Keiichi
九州大学言語文化部

<https://doi.org/10.15017/1355865>

出版情報：英語英文学論叢. 43, pp.19-35, 1993-02. 九州大学英語英文学研究会
バージョン：
権利関係：

On the Structure of George Herbert's *The Temple*

Keiichi Onizuka

Although it is usual to observe that George Herbert's *Temple* displays a structure built upon the art of mental communion, and so designed, beyond any doubt, by Herbert himself, to demonstrate the close relationship of the structure of *The Temple* with the Anglican Services of Baptism and Holy Communion by making full use of *The Book of Common Prayer, 1559* (edited by John E. Booty) will put us in a position to interpret *The Temple* (especially "The Church-porch" and "The Church") more accurately.

In the course of this demonstration it will be proved how 'Perirrhanterium' corresponds to the stage of baptism, "The Church-porch" to that of post-baptism, and "The Church" to that of the holy communion; and how 'The Altar' hieroglyphically indicates the Lord's Table (or the altar) of the Holy Communion, at the same time transformig itself into what might be called the consecrated bread and wine; and also how 'The Sacrifice' symbolically functions as the Prayer of Consecration offered by Christ himself, making thus all the poems of "The Church" the consecrated bread and wine. I would argue that reading such a piece of poetry of "The Church" is, thus, to be fairly said 'sacramental', in the sense that the reader spiritually tastes the flesh of Christ and drinks his blood, and then he dwells in Christ and Christ in him.