

There's more to the story (Red Heifer) (**Numbers 19**)

1.) (Verse 2) **The red heifer must be unblemished, without defect, and never yoked**

- Jesus was sinless and unblemished:
 - Passover Lamb-**Exodus 12:5** Your ^[a]lamb shall be an unblemished male a year old; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats.
 - **1 Peter 1:18-19** knowing that you were not ^[a]redeemed with perishable things like silver or gold from your futile way of life inherited from your forefathers, ¹⁹ but with precious blood, as of a lamb unblemished and spotless, *the blood* of Christ.
 - **Hebrews 4:15** For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but One who has been tempted in all things as *we are*, yet without sin.

2.) (Verse 3) **The red heifer was brought outside the camp and slaughtered**

- Jesus suffered outside the gate
 - (**Hebrews 13:11-14**) For the bodies of those animals whose blood is brought into the holy place by the high priest *as an offering* for sin, are burned outside the camp. ¹² Therefore Jesus also, that He might sanctify the people through His own blood, suffered outside the gate. ¹³ So, let us go out to Him outside the camp, bearing His reproach. ¹⁴ For here we do not have a lasting city, but we are seeking *the city* which is to come.

3.) (Verse 4) **Some of the blood was sprinkled by the priest toward the front of the tabernacle**

- The high priest on the day of atonement sprinkled blood in the mercy seat- (**Leviticus 16:15-16**)
- Jesus enters the true tabernacle and offered his own blood (**Hebrews 9:11-26**)
- Jesus sprinkles His elect with His blood (**1 Peter 1:2**)

4.) (Verse 6) **Cedar wood, hyssop, scarlet was mixed with the burning heifer**

- These three elements are used in a ceremonial cleansing of a leper (**Lev 14:1-9**).
- Hyssop used to sprinkle blood or water in cleansing.
 - David's prayer of repentance to be cleansed (**Psalms 51:7**) *Purify me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; ^[b]Wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.*
- Hyssop used to apply the blood to the door-Passover (**Ex 12:22**) *You shall take a bunch of hyssop and dip it in the blood which is in the basin, and ^[v]apply some of the blood that is in the basin to the lintel and the two doorposts; and none of you shall go outside the door of his house until morning.*
- Sour wine was placed on a hyssop branch and given to Jesus (before His death (**John 19:28-30**) *After this, Jesus, knowing that all things had already been accomplished, to fulfill the Scripture, *said, "I am thirsty." ²⁹ A jar full of sour wine was standing there; so they put a sponge full of the sour wine upon a branch of hyssop and brought it up to His mouth. ³⁰ Therefore when Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, "It is finished!" And He bowed His head and gave up His spirit.*
- **Scarlet- Rahab Joshua 2:15-24**
 - **Hebrews 9:19** *For when every commandment had been spoken by Moses to all the people according to the Law, he took the blood of the calves and the goats, with water and scarlet wool and hyssop, and sprinkled both the book itself and all the people,*

5.) (Verse 17) **The ashes of the heifer were mixed with flowing water**

- (**John 7:37-39**) Now on the last day, the great *day* of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, "^[a]If anyone is thirsty, ^[b]let him come to Me and drink. ³⁸ He who believes in Me, as the Scripture said, 'From ^[c]his innermost being will flow rivers of living water.'" ³⁹ But this He spoke of the Spirit, whom those who believed in Him were to receive; for the Spirit was not yet *given*, because Jesus was not yet glorified.

6.) **The death of this animal continued to have a cleansing effect long after it's death. Long after the sacrifice, the sacrifice had power and effect.**

- Jesus once for all time sacrifice continues to have power and effect even 2,000 after his death. His sacrifice had power even to those before His death.
 - **Hebrews 7:27** *who does not need daily, like those high priests, to offer up sacrifices, first for His own sins and then for the sins of the people, because this He did once for all when He offered up Himself.*
 - **Hebrews 9: 12,26** *and not through the blood of goats and calves, but through His own blood, He entered the holy place once for all, [a]having obtained eternal redemption. Otherwise, He would have needed to suffer often since the foundation of the world; but now once at the consummation of the ages He has been manifested to put away sin [a]by the sacrifice of Himself.*
 - **Hebrews 10:10** *By [a]this will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.*

7.) (Verse 9) **Only someone who was clean could carry out the duties. That person could not be defiled.**

- Jesus was without sin and undefiled and was the only One who could provide the perfect sacrifice for sins.
 - **Hebrews 4:15** *For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but One who has been tempted in all things as we are, yet without sin.*
 - **Hebrews 7:26-27** *For it was fitting for us to have such a high priest, holy, innocent, undefiled, separated from sinners and exalted above the heavens; who does not need daily, like those high priests, to offer up sacrifices, first for His own sins and then for the sins of the people, because this He did once for all when He offered up Himself.*
 - **1 John 3:5** *You know that He appeared in order to take away sins; and in Him there is no sin.*

8.) (Verses 7-8, 10) **Those involved in the process that would be required to cleanse those who were defiled would they themselves become unclean.**

- a. **2 Corinthians 5:21** He made Him who knew no sin *to be* sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

9.) (continuing from point 8) **To those who became unclean in the ceremony it was a costly thing. The cost was that they could not come to worship at the tabernacle because they were unclean for God is holy and pure. They would be separated from God's assembly and presence while they were considered unclean! As Christ was taking on the sin of His people were defiled, He had separation from the Father for a time.**

- a. **Matthew 27:46** *About the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, "Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?" that is, "My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?"*

10.) (Verse 10) **This was for Israel and the alien.**

- a. This speaks to the mystery of the Gospel, the grafting in of the Gentiles.

11.) **The defiling issue was death to which they needed cleansing from.**

- a. We are dead in sins and deserving of wrath (**Ephesians 2:1-3**)
- b. The wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord (**Romans 6:23**)

Read **Hebrews 9:11-28**

- **Verses 13-14** For if the blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer sprinkling those who have been defiled sanctify for the [a]cleansing of the flesh, ¹⁴ how much more will the blood of Christ, who through [b]the eternal Spirit offered Himself without blemish to God, cleanse [c]your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

Many are looking for a red heifer to be sacrificed in a rebuilt temple but let all the looking for a red heifer cease immediately. The red heifer was a shadow pointing to Christ who entered into the greater and more perfect temple to offer Himself as a sacrifice that would cleanse from defilement and death brought about by our sin. To say there will be rebuilt temple while returning to animal sacrifices is to stomp underfoot the finished work of Christ and His sacrifice. God forbid!

There's more to the story!!!

