



CHUKAT - DECREE

Numbers 19:1 to 22:1

Judges 11:1-33

John 3:1-21; 4:3-30; 12:27-50

The Red Heifer Sacrifice

The red heifer sacrifice has always been a great illustration in Scripture of Yeshua. To fully comprehend the importance of this study we go back to Exodus 24:3-11 where God/*Elohim* gives His Covenant (the Mosaic Covenant) to His people Israel. Scripture says they all responded with one voice, *“Everything the LORD/Yahweh has said we will listen to do.”* Then Moses wrote down all the words of the Covenant.

The season in which this took place was the culmination of the Counting of the Omer and the Feast of Pentecost/*Shavuot*. The occasion was the betrothal of God/*Elohim* to His people Israel. This giving of the Marriage Covenant is known in Hebrew as a *ketubah*. In it was the Bridal gift of the Covenant called *the Good News* or *the Gospel*, which contained His universal order (*For further information on Gospel see study Lech Lecha in Genesis www.sheepfoldgleanings.com*).

The *purpose of a betrothal* is when a couple vows publically their intent for one other. The *goal of engagement* is their *wedding day*. At the altar, they confirm their vows before entering into *marriage*. In Greek, this *goal* or *ending* is a *finishing* called *telos*. It is here the couple *begins* their Marriage Covenant and life together as husband and wife. Therefore, *betrothal is an ending* and *marriage is the beginning*. So it is with Yeshua.

🦁 **Romans 10:4** “For Christ/*Yeshua* is the end/*telos* [*goal*] of the law [*Torah*] for righteousness [*holiness and sanctification*] to everyone who believes.”

Yeshua is the *goal, ending, finishing* or *telos* of the Torah, the Law of Righteousness/*betrothal*, to bring His people to marriage/*the beginning*. Now that His people have received *the goal* (*Yeshua, the Gospel*), they enter into His Kingdom lifestyle. Yeshua has graciously supplied all the information His people as to how to follow and walk in His right ways, as they are written down for them and found in His Word/*Torah*. The pursuit of Torah is filled with all of His wisdom, His understanding,

and His knowledge, which produce a pure and holy life *to everyone who trusts and believes in it.*

🌿 **Galatians 3:24** “Therefore the Law/*Torah* has become our tutor to lead us to Christ/*Messiah* [*our Bridegroom*], that we may be justified by faith.”

🌿 **Matthew 5:17** “Do not think that I [*Yeshua*] came to abolish the Law [*Torah, the law of righteousness, Moses*] or the Prophets; I did not come to abolish, but to fulfill.”

When the people cried in unison “*Na’aseh v’nishma!*” they were saying “*Everything the LORD/Yahweh has said [in His Gospel – Betrothal Covenant], we will listen to do.*” This expression teaches us the principle of freeing ourselves from any shackles that may hinder our walk with Yeshua. The key to a successful holy life is to *accept His word whole-heartedly and perform it willingly.* There may be challenges in our life along the way, but realize that the fuller depth of God’s/*Elohim* truth may yet be seen or grasped in our lives. The point is to allow His Holy Spirit/*Ruach HaKodesh* to guide us and to follow what He asks us to do; as obedience brings the blessings.

🌿 **Exodus 24:4-8** “And he [*Moses*] rose early in the morning, and built an altar at the foot of the mountain, and twelve pillars according to the twelve tribes of Israel. Then he sent young men of the children of Israel, who offered burnt offerings and sacrificed peace offerings of oxen to the LORD/*Yahweh*. And Moses took half the blood and put it in basins, and half the blood he sprinkled on the altar. Then he took the Book of the Covenant and read [*it again*] in the hearing of the people. And they said, “***All that the LORD/Yahweh has said we will do, and be obedient.***” And Moses took the blood, **sprinkled it on the people**, and said, “***This is the blood of the covenant which the LORD/Yahweh has made with you according to all these words.***”

In Hebrews 9, more detail is revealed about this event.

🌿 **Hebrews 9:19** “When Moses had proclaimed every commandment of the Torah to all the people, **he took the blood of calves, together with water, scarlet wool and branches of hyssop** [*contained in the water from the red heifer sacrifice*], **and sprinkled the scroll and all the people.**”

🌿 **Luke 22:20** “Likewise He also took the cup after supper, saying, ‘This cup is the new [*re-newed/kianos*] [*Marriage*] Covenant in My blood [*prophetic of the red heifer sacrifice*], which is shed for you.’”

The *cup* in Luke 22:20 is reference to the red heifer ceremony and the background to our study this week.

The Red Heifer – The Mount of Olives

Numbers 19:1-9

The killing of the red heifer and keeping of its ashes are commandments not for salvation but purification. God's/*Elohim* requirements were for the Children of Israel to present Eleazar, the high priest, a red heifer that was no older than three years, without defect or blemish, which had never been under a yoke or birthed a calf. After receiving the heifer at the Tabernacle, Eleazar led it outside the camp for slaughter. Some of its blood was returned and sprinkled seven times in front of the Tabernacle. This ordinance was for the children of Israel and those sojourning with them *throughout their generations* (Numbers 19:2, 9, 10, 21).

Under Eleazar's supervision, they burned the heifer in its entirety with its hide, flesh, blood, and offal, along with some *cedar wood, hyssop and scarlet wool*. Later the high priest cleansed himself (had a *mikvah*) and changed his high priest's garments to priestly attire before returning to camp. He remained unclean until evening. The man who burned the red heifer also took a *mikvah* and changed his clothes (status) before re-entering the camp. A man who was ceremonially clean gathered up the ashes of the heifer and put them in a clean place outside the camp. He also changed his clothes and performed a *mikvah* before returning to the camp.

The ashes were kept for the Israelite community as a whole, to be used in the water cleansing ceremony for purification from sin (sometimes called *holy water* Numbers 5:11-31). This lasting ordinance was for both the Israelites and those sojourning among them. To date, there have been nine red heifer sacrifices in Israel's history.

The heifer represents a type and shadow of the Messiah. Popular belief holds that Messiah fulfilled the requirements for the tenth red heifer. He is the Word made flesh, born of a virgin, conceived by the Spirit of God/*Elohim* and was without sin, meaning He was never under the yoke of sin and death. Also, Yeshua's earthly ministry was three years (John 1:1,14; Luke 1:26-27; Isaiah 7:14).

Different places are labeled as the traditional site of the crucifixion of Yeshua. One is the Church of the Holy Sepulcher in Jerusalem, which would have placed the crucifixion site *inside the camp*. Some say that Gordon's Golgotha (meaning skull, head or poll), by the present day Garden Tomb as the place of crucifixion. This relatively new site in history is located just outside the Damascus Gate (also noted as Shechem Gate) in the Old City of Jerusalem. The Hebrew understanding of the word skull is reference to the top of a man's head. The term *Calvary* was an adaptation of the Latin *calvaria*, meaning bare or bald head. The name skull was also used to describe the top or summit of a mountain, especially a bare one.

According to Scripture, the red heifer was to be killed *outside* the camp in a clean or set-apart place. That clean place has historically and biblically understood as a *separate*

mountain entirely than where the Temple stood on Mount Moriah. The most authentic clean place *outside the camp* was on the Mount of Olives. This mountain, opposite Jerusalem, has historically been accepted as the Scripturally set-apart place for the red heifer sacrifice. Also known as the Skull Mountain in Yeshua's day, the Mount of Olives is part of the *Mount Moriah mountain range*, which includes Mount Moriah. The Mount of Olives has long been recognized by the Israelites down through the generations as the place where Yeshua died.

Access to the set-apart site was through the eastern gate also called the Golden Gate. The valley between Mount of Olives and Mount Moriah (where Jerusalem is situated) is known as the Kidron Valley or Kidron Brook. The blood and water from the temple sacrifices would flow down into the Kidron Valley from Mount Moriah, between these two mountains. That is why this valley is also called the Valley of Death. A bridge was built, which joined the two mountains to allow the priests to travel back and forth over the valley to perform their duties without coming in contact with the outflow from the Temple sacrifices and to prevent contamination. The bridge was also called the Priestly Bridge, the Red Heifer's Gangway, and the Narrow Way.

In Genesis 15, at the time when Abraham received the Covenant, he was instructed to sacrifice animals, a three-year-old heifer along with a ram, a goat, a turtledove and a young pigeon. The Hebrew word for heifer in Genesis 15:9 is Strong's H5697 עֵגְלָה *'eglâ* meaning: a heifer or young cow. The Theological Wordbook of the Old Testament (TWOT) says Strong's H6510 פָּרָה *pārâ* is a synonym for the word *'eglâ* and the word for (red) heifer in Numbers 19:2. It also mentions that unlike the word for bull/*pār*, the cow/heifer/*pārâ* was never used in the Tanakh as an animal of sacrifice. The only exception was the red heifer, which was slaughtered and burned outside the camp. Thus, Abraham presented a red heifer in Genesis 15:9. He would have offered it in a clean place outside the camp *on the Mount of Olives*. There, Abraham cut the animals in half and let the blood flow down toward the Kidron Valley. God/*Elohim* then walked between the pieces thereby sealing the Covenant *forever* (Genesis 15:17). It was on this same mountain, years later, that Abraham knew where he was to go when asked to offer his only son Isaac, as he had been to *that place* before.

🦁 **Genesis 22:2** Then He said, "Take now your son, your only *son* Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you."

Additionally, a phenomenon occurred at the time of Yeshua's death likened to the halved sacrificed pieces of Abraham. When Yeshua was presented before God/*Elohim*, on Mount Moriah, He was then taken *outside the camp* to a clean place - the Mount of Olives. There His body was crucified, and His blood flowed down for His Bride, Israel. As the first Covenant with Abraham was cut, Yeshua's cutting was the re-enacting and re-newing of the first Covenant made with Abraham.

Why was the renewing of the Abrahamic Covenant required? The Covenant given to Abraham, established a people, a blessing, and a possession of land as a wedding gift to God's/*Elohim* people *Israel*. When the Israelites reached Mount Sinai, God/*Elohim* formally betrothed His people and handed them the keys to His Kingdom with the instructions of how to walk in their Marriage Covenant (the Mosaic Covenant/the Song of Moses). The instructions were then written on stone tablets and contained in a book. However, when Moses came down from Mount Sinai carrying this beautiful gift (Covenant) for His people, he found Israel adulterating before a false god - the golden calf. This action broke their Covenant with Him. Because both the Abrahamic Covenant and Mosaic Covenant were formally and legally bound by blood, blood was required for restoration. Without blood, there would be no redemption in the Covenant. Thus, Yeshua became our red heifer sacrifice to renew the Covenant.

As Yeshua's sinless blood flowed down the Mount of Olives, another stream of blood flowed down Mount Moriah as the Temple sacrifices were beginning for the Passover. Not only was blood flowing from Yeshua's heart that day but also water came forth when a sword pierced His heart. The water from His heart symbolized the water cleansing from the red heifer sacrifice. When His water (truth) mingled with His blood the doors/veil opened for cleansing and the renewal of the hearts of men. In this one act of faithfulness, Yeshua fulfilled the red heifer sacrifice substituting His life for ours. His offering restored the sacrifices, initially officiated by Abraham in Genesis 15:9.

🦁 **John 8:56** "Your father Abraham rejoiced to see My day [*Yeshua's day*], and he saw *it* and was glad."

Yeshua renewed the Abrahamic Covenant *forever. It is finished.* Now it is up to the Bride to continue to follow the instructions given her at Mount Sinai through the Mosaic Covenant. Those instructions will fulfill her destiny in Yeshua known as the restoration of David's Tabernacle, the Covenant that contains the priestly anointing (Genesis 15: 1-21; Amos 9:11; Jeremiah 31:33-34; Hebrew 8:8-10; Matthew 10:8; 15:24; Romans 11:25-26; Ezekiel 37:15-28; 1Peter 2:9).

🦁 **Isaiah 44:3** "For I will pour water on him who is thirsty, and floods on the dry ground; I will pour My Spirit on your descendants, and My blessing on your offspring;"

🦁 **Ezekiel 36:24-28** "For I will take you from among the nations, gather you out of all countries, and bring you into your own land. Then I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean; I will cleanse you from all your filthiness and from all your idols. I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will keep My judgments and do *them*. Then you shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers; you shall be My people, and I will be your God's/*Elohim*."

- 🌿 **John 3:5** Yeshua answered, “Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of *water* and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God’s/*Elohim*.”
- 🌿 **John 4:14** “But the *water* that I shall give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up into everlasting life.”
- 🌿 **John 7:38** “He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of *living water*.”

Yeshua is the only mediator we have between heaven and earth. It is His sinless atoning blood offering in the red heifer requirements that break the barriers within His people and between people groups in the Nations to bring healing to unify His people in one accord under His Kingship (Hebrews 9:15; Ephesians 2:11-22).

It was this priestly bridge that Yeshua, our Passover Lamb, crossed over as He rode into Jerusalem on a donkey four days before the Passover to be our Passover Lamb. We are told that the people lined the way presenting a wave offering of palm branches before Him while crying out, “*Hosanna! (Hebrew for Save us!) Blessed is He who comes in the Name of the LORD/Yahweh! Blessed is the King of Israel*” fulfilling Psalm 118:25-26 and Zechariah 9:9 (John 12:12-15).

This event was also prophetic as we see John reporting in the Book of Revelation 7:9-10 “*After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no one could number, of all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, with palm branches in their hands, and crying out with a loud voice, saying, ‘Salvation belongs to our God/Elohim who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!’*”

It was along this priestly bridge that the people proclaimed Messiah Yeshua King of Israel, and it was this same bridge that carried Yeshua to His death on our behalf a few days later as the final fulfillment of the red heifer requirement.

- 🌿 **Matthew 7:13-14** “Enter in at the narrow gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it. Because narrow is the gate, and narrow is the way, that leads to life and there are few who find it.”
- 🌿 **Zechariah 4:4** “On that day his feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, east of Jerusalem, and the Mount of Olives will be split in two from east to west, forming a great valley, with half of the mountain moving north and half moving south.”

At the exact moment of Yeshua’s death, at the shedding of His blood, there was an earthquake. The inner Temple veil that divided the Holy Place from the Most Holy Place

tore in half from *top* to bottom. The veil represents Yeshua's body. When His body was "rent" from top to bottom, sin was defeated; therefore, the veil that separated man from entering into holiness was also removed. Now the veil is only needed when sin is present. Once sin is repented of in man, the veil is removed. Yeshua on the cross forgave us our sins. Thus, the removal of the veil spoke His final word – *liberty to the captives!* (Matthew 27:51; Mark 15:38; Luke 4:18; 23:45) (*For further veil information please refer to study Acharei Mot in Leviticus*).

The Red Heifer – Cedar, Hyssop, and Scarlet

🔥 **Numbers 19:5-6** "The red heifer was to be burned outside the camp, with its hide, flesh, blood and offal along with some cedar wood, hyssop and scarlet wool."

As the red heifer sacrifice, Yeshua would also have to fulfill the cedar wood, hyssop, and scarlet wool requirements.

Cedar

Cedar can represent strength; it can also represent pride. Our pride makes us think we are long lasting, indestructible and above the Law/Torah.

The Talmud says that the inhabitants of Israel called ten different types of trees *cedar*. It was, however, the cedar of Lebanon that was most widely referred to when the word *erez* is used in Scripture. The average height of such cedars is about eighty-five feet, though some have measured over a hundred feet and the circumference may reach forty feet. It is also common for this tree to spread its roots among the rocks, thus securing a stronghold.

There is a special oil in the cedar that prevents destruction by dry rot or insects. The oil from cedar can be beneficial as a natural insecticide with purifying properties, which include inhibiting fungal growth in the body and respiratory conditions and infections such as coughs, colds, congestions, and sinusitis. The oil can also help remove toxins, fluid retention, salt, and fat from the body and sedate inflammations. It is useful for calming nervous anxiety, arthritis, and cystitis and improves skin conditions such as acne, dandruff, and psoriasis.

Scriptural references for the cedar used in connection with the Temple are in 1 Kings 6:15 and 18, cedar was used *inside* the Temple. In 1 Kings 7:12 cedar was used *outside* the Temple. Of all the furniture in the Temple, only the altar of incense was made of cedar (1 Kings 6:20).

Hyssop

Hyssop represents humility. The word occurs ten times in Scripture, primarily in the Five Books of Moses. Hyssop is a small plant that can even grow in the crags of walls. It is used in purification ceremonies. In Exodus 12:22, we read that hyssop functioned as a

brush for the Israelites to apply blood to the doorposts and lintels of their homes. In Leviticus 14:4-6, hyssop, along with cedar wood, and scarlet thread, was used in a purification ceremony for a man cured of leprosy as well as cleansing from an outbreak of mildew. King David said, “*Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean*” (Psalms 51:7).

Hyssop means ‘holy herb’ and has known properties that have the ability to reprogram DNA to restore right order thereby helping cleanse bad thoughts or habits. Hyssop is also used for its antiseptic, disinfecting, and anti-infectious properties. It has been beneficial for opening the respiratory system and as a decongestant relieving respiratory infections, coughs, sore throats, bronchial spasms, viral infections, and asthma. Hyssop is helpful in cleansing, purifying, and reducing fats in tissue. It also helps raise low blood pressure. It is useful for relieving anxiety, arthritis, bruises, cuts, skin inflammation, indigestion, fatigue, nervous tension, parasites (expelling worms), rheumatism, and healing wounds

Cedar and hyssop, respectively, seem to represent the most magnificent tree and the lowly bush.

Scarlet Thread

Scarlet thread, in Scripture, represents Yeshua’s blood. It refers to the dye obtained from the eggs of the female worm or insect that attached itself to the kermes oak tree. The word *towla* (Strong’s H8438) is Hebrew for scarlet. When the female *scarlet worm* was ready to give birth to her young, she would attach her body to the trunk of a tree, fixing herself so firmly and permanently that she would never leave again. The eggs deposited beneath her body were thus protected until the larvae were hatched and able to enter their own life cycle. As the mother died, the crimson fluid stained the wood surrounding her body, acting as a covering. From the dead bodies of such female scarlet worms the commercial scarlet dyes of antiquity were extracted. Some 70,000 cochineal insects are required to manufacture a single pound of the dye.



Not only was the scarlet thread used in the priestly garments, but used in such purification ceremonies as the cleansing of the leper, the leprous house and for general ceremonial uncleanness. The *towla* dye was the color of blood and would be a natural symbol in such a ceremony.

Cedar, *hyssop*, and *scarlet thread* are all symbols of the Messiah dying on the tree for our sins (Leviticus 14:4, 6; Leviticus 14:49, 52; Number 19:6).

🌿 **Psalm 22:6** “But I am a worm and not a man, scorned by men and despised by the people.”

The Red Heifer – The Samaritan Woman

Numbers 19:17-21; John 4:5-24

For an unclean (*tzarat*) person who had come in contact with a dead body, ashes from *the red heifer* (the burnt offering of purification) were put into an earthen vessel and then fresh living water was poured over the ashes. This water was now called the *water of purification*. A priest who was ceremonially clean would take some hyssop, dip it into the water of purification from the red heifer sacrifice and sprinkle the person, the tent, and all their furnishings. If a person did not ritually cleanse himself with this water on the *third* and *seventh* day, he would bring defilement to the sanctuary and must be cut off from the community. That is the reason why these cleansing steps are necessary and a lasting ordinance for the people of Israel.

🌿 **1 Peter 1:1-2** “Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ/*Yeshua HaMashiach*, to God’s/*Elohim* elect, exiles scattered throughout the provinces of Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia and Bithynia, who have been chosen according to the foreknowledge of God/*Elohim* the Father, through the sanctifying work of the Spirit, to be obedient to Jesus Christ/*Yeshua HaMashiach* and sprinkled with his blood: grace and peace be yours in abundance.”

Samaria is a region in the Northern Kingdom of Israel inhabited mostly by people of the House of Israel. During the occupation, Assyrians settled and intermarried with the Israeli population in that region. As a result, most people from Judah and the Southern Kingdom avoided that area as they considered the Samaritans an unclean people. However, Scripture is very clear that the people who lived in darkness would one day be redeemed and set free (2 Kings 17:5-6, 24).

🌿 **Isaiah 9:2** “The people who walked in darkness [*illiterate to their Covenant*] have seen a great light; those who dwelt in the land of the shadow of death, upon them a light [*the Living Torah - Yeshua*] has shined [*renewing the Marriage Covenant*]” (Matthew 4:16).

John Chapter 4 chronicles the story of Yeshua traveling north. When He came to a town in Samaria called Sychar, He rested by *Jacob’s Well*. This well was located in the region Jacob gave to his son Joseph. At the same time, a woman arrived to draw water from the well. Yeshua asked her for a drink. She was surprised that a man from the House of Judah would *firstly* stop in Samaria, *secondly* talk to a woman, and *thirdly* also ask to drink from *a woman’s cup!* This feedback drew her into conversation with Him.

Yeshua’s arrival at the sixth hour was a foreshadowing of His crucifixion when darkness would come over the whole land and last until His death on the ninth hour. It was also a

prophetic sign for this woman and her people of the redemption the Messiah would bring *to the lost sheep of the House of Israel*, those who lived in darkness (Matthew 4:16; Matthew 15:24; Mark 15:33).

🌿 **Isaiah 9:1-2** “Nevertheless there will be no more gloom for those who were in distress. In the past he humbled the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the future he will honor Galilee of the Gentiles [*those from the House of Israel who have lived among the Nations*], by the way of the sea, along the Jordan. The people walking in darkness have seen a great light on those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned.”

When Yeshua asked the Samaritan for a drink, it was with the understanding that He would be drinking *her cup*. The cup Yeshua was representing was the cup from the law of jealousy for the woman suspected of not being faithful to her *husband* (Numbers 5:5-31). This law of jealousy cup would contain the water of cleansing from the ashes of the red heifer sacrifice (Numbers 5:17). The Samaritan woman represented the unfaithful who had become a wayward bride. She also represented the House of *Israel* from the Northern Kingdom who had wandered from keeping His ways.

Yeshua amazed the Samaritan woman by noting she had five husbands (representing the five books of Moses: Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers and Deuteronomy), and further added, “...and the one whom you now have is not your husband.” He uncovered her truth, revealing she was indeed *outside* her Marriage Covenant with Him, her *husband*, and had become illiterate.

🌿 **Isaiah 29:10-12** “For the LORD/*Yahweh* has poured out on you the spirit of deep sleep, and has closed your eyes, namely, the prophets; and He has covered your heads, *namely*, the seers. The whole vision has become to you like the words of a book that is sealed, which *men* deliver to one who is literate, saying, ‘Read this, please.’ And he says, ‘I cannot, for it *is* sealed.’ Then the book is delivered to one who is illiterate, saying, ‘Read this, please.’ And he says, ‘I am not literate.’

The Samaritan woman responded by reminding Yeshua who He was – a *Jew* from the House of *Judah* – and stated that she was of the House of Jacob/the House of *Israel*. “*How can you ask me for a drink?*” she said. At this point the woman was very aware of the separation between the two Houses of Israel and that the House of Judah was not friendly with her people – as they say, “*a defiled people.*” Yeshua continued, “*If you knew the gift [of restoration] of God/Elohim and who it is that asks you for a drink [the cup that renews your Marriage Covenant], you would have asked Him and He would have given you Living Water [from the red heifer sacrifice]*” (John 4:10).

The Samaritan woman revealed that her father was Jacob and that this well belonged to him. “*He drank from it as did his sons and his flocks and herds*” (a reference to the Covenant of Abraham for ALL Twelve Tribes of Israel). Yeshua continued and said,

“Whoever drinks the water I give him will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life ” (John 4:13-14).

🌿 **John 7:38** “He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.”

Here Yeshua shares two more references about the ashes of the red heifer sacrifice that are part of the water cleansing for the law of jealousy. The Scripture in John 7:38 is prophetic of the redemptive work of the Messiah opening the door for those returning through repentance in response to the renewing of their Marriage Covenant. The Samaritan woman would come to know Him and when she does she will pass the test for the law of jealousy, as Yeshua would drink her intended cup on her behalf. At the wedding supper of the Lamb, she will be found to be a virtuous Bride. Formerly *lost*, she was now *found* – back under the covering of the Abrahamic Covenant and able to fully walk in her redemption according to God’s/*Elohim* plan (John 8:1-11; Revelation 19:13; 22:1-3).

🌿 **John 4:21-24** Yeshua said to her, “Woman, believe Me, the hour is coming when you will neither on this mountain, nor in Jerusalem, worship the Father. You worship what you do not know; we know what we worship, for salvation is of the Jews. But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. God/*Elohim* is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in *spirit and truth*.” (Jeremiah 31:31-36; Zechariah 4:6).

With joy, the Samaritan woman recognized Yeshua as her Messiah. Her heart opened when she saw the forgiveness offered she and her people - *the House of Israel*. She ran to the village telling of the *good news*. *The one Moses had told them about had come!* Yeshua stayed among her people two more days showing them the redeemed lifestyle of sanctification found in the Living Torah. Many came to believe and put their faith / obedience in Him, as their Messiah.

To believers in Yeshua and all of Israel, the law of jealousy is *our* cup that Yeshua drank on our behalf. It was not *His* cup, as He is sinless before His Father. Just before Yeshua died He prayed in the garden on the Mount of Olives, *“Father, if you are willing, take this cup from me; yet not my will but yours be done.”* Yeshua then went on to become the red heifer sacrifice. He drank *our* cup for the law of jealousy *and* fulfilled all the requirements for *our* cleansing through the red heifer sacrifice to restore the relationship with His Bride (Matthew 26:39).

🌿 **John 19:29-30** “Now a vessel full of sour wine was sitting there; and they filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on hyssop, and put it to His mouth. So when Jesus/*Yeshua* had received the sour wine, He said, *‘It is finished!’* And bowing His head, He gave up His spirit.”

Not by Might, Nor by Power But by MY Spirit

🦁 **John 4:21-24** “the hour is coming when you will neither on this mountain, nor in Jerusalem, worship the Father. You worship what you do not know; we know what we worship, for salvation is of the Jews. But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. God/*Elohim* is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in *spirit and truth*.”

It is Yeshua who cleanses His people by His *spirit and truth*. Spirit and truth are also references to blood and water, which came forth from Yeshua’s pierced side. God/*Elohim* is Spirit, therefore; His worshippers (believers) must worship Him in Spirit and Truth (Jeremiah 3:6-11).

🦁 **Colossians 2:13-15** When you [*believers*] were dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your sinful nature, God/*Elohim* made you alive with Christ/*Messiah*. He forgave us all our sins. Having canceled the written code with its regulations, that was against us and that stood opposed to us; He took it away, nailing it to the stake. And having disarmed the powers and authorities, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the stake.

🦁 **John 19:33-34** “When they came to Jesus/*Yeshua* and found that he was already dead, they did not break his legs. Instead, one of the soldiers pierced His side with a spear, bringing a sudden flow of blood and water [*spirit and truth*].”

🦁 **Zechariah 12:10** “And I will pour out on the house of David [*all Twelve Tribes*] and the inhabitants of Jerusalem the Spirit of grace and supplication. They will look on me, the one they have pierced, and they will mourn for him as one mourns for an only child, and grieve bitterly for him as one grieves for a firstborn son.”

🦁 **Zechariah 13:1** “On that day a fountain will be opened to the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, to cleanse them from sin and impurity” (*to restore David’s fallen tent/covenant* – Amos 9:11; Acts 15:16).

In Leviticus 14 (study *Metzora*) we read of the guilt offering requirement for one desiring cleansing from uncleanness (*tzaras*). The *blood* from that guilt offering they placed on the tip of the right ear, right thumb, and right big toe. Then the *oil* (spirit) of anointing was placed in the same location as the blood (truth) on the right ear, right thumb and right big toe. The remainder of oil was poured over the head to cleanse the guilty conscience. In doing this, the person was declared clean from *tzaras* by *spirit and truth*. They were then led into a Torah lifestyle and taught how to keep God’s/*Elohim* precepts so as not to sin again. This guilt offering is about redeeming that which was lost and

learning to walk in sanctification so that *sprit* and *truth* would establish the repentant returning believer.

🌿 **Zechariah 4:6** “Not by might, nor by power but by MY Spirit says the LORD/*Yahweh* of hosts.”

Yeshua fulfilled all the requirements for the red heifer sacrifice of purification. As an unclean people, this requirement in Torah was one that we could never fulfill on our own, Thus, His covering and His fulfillment on our behalf. Yeshua cleansed our impurities once and for all. He was taken outside the camp to a clean place and sacrificed. By willingly taking our sin upon Him, it killed Him.

The *hyssop* requirement for the red heifer sacrifice was evidenced in the drink brought to Him on a hyssop branch. The fulfillment of the *cedar* requirement was realized in both the wood He carried to the crucifixion site and the altar of incense made of cedar in the Temple, which was located in front of the dividing curtain before the ark. When Yeshua died, that curtain torn into two pieces. That could only happen if Yeshua’s blood was pure, holy, and accepted on the heavenly altar of incense. Scripturally, once a year the altar of incense in the Temple’s holy place was to be atoned. At the time of Yeshua’s crucifixion, His blood not only cleansed the people but also brought atonement to this altar *eternally* once and for all. The *scarlet thread* requirement was fulfilled upon His death, for when the sword pierced His side, a scarlet thread of blood and water poured out from His heart (John 19:29-34; 1 Kings 6:20, Exodus 30:10).

Remember the definition of *scarlet* earlier; worm was another word for *scarlet* Strong’s H8438. Whenever scarlet is mentioned in Scripture, it is a picture of Yeshua dying on the tree shedding His precious blood – atoning, covering, purifying, and redeeming believers from their sin. It is also a sign of His Marriage Covenant restored so that believers can enter in. Our sin was removed that He might *bring many sons unto glory*. He died for us that we might live through Him.

🌿 **Isaiah 1:18** “Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool.”

🌿 **Isaiah 52:14-15** “Just as there were many who were appalled at Him--His appearance was so disfigured beyond that of any man and His form marred beyond human likeness-- so will He sprinkle many nations.”

The cost to fulfill the requirements of the *cup of bitterness* (the Law of Jealousy) and the water of cleansing (with ashes from the red heifer sacrifice) was Yeshua’s death. Israel was both the unfaithful Bride and the dead (*tzaras*) body. His people were considered dead because of the trespasses/iniquities of their forefathers and by their own doing both *before* and *after* being filled with His Spirit. Yeshua drank our cup and offered His people an olive branch for cleansing. Those who believe in Him as Messiah must choose

to enter INTO *His death and resurrection*. And if they die IN Him, they will also rise in His resurrection *life*. His people are His Firstfruits from the dead (Isaiah 63:11).

🌿 **Colossians 3:3** “For you died and your life is now hidden with Christ/*Messiah* in God/*Elohim*.”

The words spoken just before Yeshua’s crucifixion was thought of as a curse by many, but what if it was prophetic in that He would sprinkle many people/nations by His blood?

🌿 **Matthew 27:25** “Before Pilate, all the people answered, ‘*Let His blood be on us and on our children!*’”

The *religious leaders* at the time wanted Yeshua’s death, but *the people* who walked with Him the three and a half years and experienced His remarkable teaching and miraculous healings wanted His life with them forever. In this case, the Scripture in Matthew speaks of *future generations*. His people *wanted* Yeshua’s blood to be upon them! Thus, among the mixed crowd before Pilate that day was a cry for death but also a cry for life - for all future generations!

The law states that whoever touches a dead person needs cleansing (Numbers 19 the red heifer sacrifice). We were all *dead* in the iniquities of our forefathers before us and also if we continued transgressing after became born again. Many believers are learning through Yeshua’s teaching and instruction/Torah, to separate from that which brings death such as bitterness, rage, anger, and unforgiveness etc. For believers who want to be finished with the old carnal nature once and for all, it requires a true repentance and a turning from their old ways to restore the Covenant. God’s/*Elohim* people have all received Yeshua’s blood upon them; now they realize His atoning work is to appropriate the sprinkling of His blood that absolves and sanctifies His people of all sins *past, present,* and *future* (Exodus 24:3-11).

🌿 **Ezekiel 36:25-28** “I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean; I will cleanse you from all your impurities and from all your idols. I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put my Spirit in you and move you to follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws. You will live in the land I gave your forefathers; you will be my people, and I will be your God/*Elohim*.”

🌿 **Ezekiel 37:1-14** The hand of the LORD/*Yahweh* came upon me and brought me out in the Spirit of the LORD/*Yahweh*, and set me down in the midst of the valley; and it *was* full of bones. Then He caused me to pass by them all around, and behold, *there were* very many in the open valley; and indeed *they were* very dry. And He said to me, ‘Son of man, can these bones live?’ So I answered, ‘O Lord GOD/*Elohim*, You know.’ Again He said to me, ‘Prophesy to these bones, and say to them, ‘*O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD/Yahweh!* Thus says the

Lord GOD/*Elohim* to these bones: Surely I will cause breath to enter into you, and you shall live. I will put sinews on you and bring flesh upon you, cover you with skin and put breath in you; and you shall live. Then you shall know that I *am* the LORD/*Yahweh*.”

“So I prophesied as I was commanded; and as I prophesied, there was a noise, and suddenly a rattling; and the bones came together, bone to bone. Indeed, as I looked, the sinews and the flesh came upon them, and the skin covered them over; but *there was* no breath in them. Also He said to me, ‘Prophecy to the breath, prophecy, son of man, and say to the breath, *‘Thus says the Lord GOD/Elohim: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe on these slain, that they may live.’*” So I prophesied as He commanded me, and breath came into them, and they lived, and stood upon their feet, an exceedingly great army.”

“Then He said to me, ‘Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They indeed say, *‘Our bones are dry, our hope is lost, and we ourselves are cut off!’* Therefore prophecy and say to them, *‘Thus says the Lord GOD/Elohim: Behold, O My people, I will open your graves and cause you to come up from your graves, and bring you into the land of Israel. Then you shall know that I am the LORD/Yahweh, when I have opened your graves, O My people, and brought you up from your graves. I will put My Spirit in you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I, the LORD/Yahweh, have spoken it and performed it,’* says the LORD/Yahweh.”

📖 **Isaiah 12:2-3** “Behold, God/*Elohim* is my salvation [*the Hebrew word for salvation is Yeshua*], I will trust and not be afraid; ‘For YAH, the LORD / *Yahweh*, is my strength and song; He also has become my salvation [*Yeshua*].’”
Therefore with joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation [*Yeshua*].”

For thousands of years, the *Jewish* people have been falsely accused of Yeshua’s murder. Many people, including the Church, have done terrible atrocities to the Jewish people all because of this Scripture in Matthew 27:25. Would the crusades, inquisition, pogroms, holocausts, terrorism, the thousands of murders and threats against innocent Jewish people ever have taken place if this Scripture was taught in its fuller context?

📖 **Revelation 13:8** Yeshua is “*the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.*”

📖 **Isaiah 53:5** “He [*Yeshua*] was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities, the chastisement of our peace was upon Him and with His stripes we are healed.”

Isaiah 53 speaks the prophecy of Yeshua’s death and about His blood “*sprinkled upon us,*” to cleanse and heal us from our sins and the sins of our forefathers.”

🌿 **Isaiah 52:15** “So shall He [*Yeshua*] *sprinkle* many nations.”

🌿 **1 Peter 2:24** “who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness - by whose stripes you were healed.”

When Moses received the Marriage Covenant at Mount Sinai, the whole Israelite community with Him represented not only themselves but also all their future generations – those not yet born but carried within their DNA. All generations were standing with our ancestors when Moses sprinkled the *blood of the Covenant* upon the people.

🌿 **Deuteronomy 29:14-15** “I make this covenant and this oath, not with you alone, but with *him* who stands here with us today before the LORD/*Yahweh* our God/*Elohim*, as well as with *him* who *is* not here with us today.”

We were with the twelve disciples (who represented the twelve tribes of Israel and their companions) when *Yeshua* took the bread, gave thanks, broke it, and gave it to His disciples, saying, “*Take and eat; this is my body broken for you*” (1 Corinthians 11:24, Matthew 26:26; Mark 14:22; Luke 22:19).

We were there when *Yeshua* “*took the cup, gave thanks and offered it to them saying, ‘Drink from it, ALL OF YOU. This is MY BLOOD OF THE COVENANT, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins’*” Every time *Yeshua*’s people break bread and drink the wine they are to remember the *Marriage Covenant* that *Yeshua* made with them. When they do, the Bride is saying, “*We will do everything God/Elohim has said; we will obey our Marriage Covenant with You*” (Matthew 26:28; Mark 14:24; 1 Corinthians 11:25).

Note: In Numbers 15, the wine offering and bread offering are always offered together with the burnt/elevation offering. They are also served with special vows, freewill offerings, and at *ALL God’s/Elohim* Feast days, including His Shabbat and New Moon/*Rosh Chodesh* celebrations, *not just once a year at Passover* (Numbers 15:3; 28:9-40. The *minchah* offering – Leviticus 2; Numbers 15:4; John 6:35; Numbers 15:5; Matthew 26:26-27).

As His people, we were there when *Yeshua* died, and *we all* cried, “*His blood be upon us and our children.*” We are that generation of children who received *Yeshua*’s atoning blood (Exodus 24:3-11).

🌿 **1John 5:6-8** “⁶This is He who came by water and blood - Jesus Christ/*Yeshua HaMashiach*; not only by water, but by water and blood. And it is the Spirit who bears witness, because the Spirit is truth. ⁷For there are three that bear witness *in heaven*: the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit; and these three are one. ⁸And there are three that bear witness *on earth*: the Spirit, the water, and the blood; and these three agree as one (NKJ and KJV).”

Yeshua fulfilled the red heifer sacrifice. As believers, and part of Israel, we have been an unclean/*tzarat* people that Yeshua restored. He nailed our impurities to the stake. He atoned the altar of incense and drank our cup. He has cleansed His people as a sweet aroma before Him. Yeshua is the Living sacrifice. When His people also enter into His death, to our carnal nature as overcomers participating in His resurrection life they enter *eternity* - called *today* – and become living holy sacrifices before Him. (Hebrews 6:4-6, 10:26-31; Romans 12:1).

- ✎ **1 Peter 1:1-2** “Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ/*Yeshua HaMashiach*, To the pilgrims of the Dispersion in Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, elect according to the foreknowledge of God/*Elohim* the Father, in sanctification of the Spirit, for obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ/*Yeshua HaMashiach*: Grace to you and peace be multiplied.
- ✎ **1 Peter 2:5** “You also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God/*Elohim* through Jesus Christ/*Yeshua HaMashiach*.”
- ✎ **1 Peter 2:8-10** “They [*believers who once walked in a sanctified life/Davidic/Marriage Covenant*] stumble, being disobedient to the word [*they did not walk in sanctification and broke their Mosaic/Marriage Covenant given at Mount Sinai, through Moses*] to which they [*those are Mount Sinai*] also were appointed. But you [*those who obey Moses and the Prophets*] are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; who once *were* not a people but *are* now the people of God/*Elhoim*, who had not obtained mercy but now have obtained mercy [*because of now understanding how to return and walk in accordance with your Marriage Covenant/Yeshua’s teaching and instruction (Torah) given at Mount Sinai, and how to crucify the sinful nature so that death no longer has rule in you*] (Hosea 2:23).
- ✎ **Colossians 3:8-10** “now you yourselves [*believers*] are to put off all these: anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy language [*the sinful nature*] out of your mouth. Do not lie to one another, since you have put off the old man with his deeds, and have put on the new man [*The bride is an overcomer - Revelation 21:7-8*] who is renewed in knowledge according to the image of Him who created him.”
- ✎ **Colossians 2:13-15** “And you [*believer*], being dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh [*has put to death the sinful nature*], He [*Yeshua*] has made alive together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses, having wiped out the handwriting of requirements that was against us, which was contrary to us. And He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross. Having disarmed principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it.”

🦁 **Hebrews 3:7-13** “Therefore, as the Holy Spirit says: ‘Today, if you will hear His voice, do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion, in the day of trial in the wilderness, where your fathers tested Me, tried Me, and saw My works forty years. Therefore I was angry with that generation, and said, ‘They always go astray in their heart, and they have not known My ways [*walked in Torah*].’ So I swore in My wrath, ‘They shall not enter My rest.’ Beware, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief in departing from the living God/*Elohim*; but exhort one another daily, while it is called “Today,” lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin.”

🦁 **Hebrews 10:19-23** “Therefore, brethren, having boldness to enter the Holiest by the blood of Yeshua/Jesus, by a new and living way which He consecrated for us, through the veil, that is, His flesh, and having a High Priest over the house of God/*Elohim*, let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful.”

Solomon’s Wisdom

🦁 **1 Kings 4:33** “He [*King Solomon*] could discuss trees, from the cedar in the Lebanon/L’vanon to the hyssop growing out of the wall; he could discuss wild animals, poultry, reptiles and fish (1 Kings 5:13 CJB).

The mentioning of King Solomon expounding on the *cedar* and the *hyssop* plant together, speaks of his knowledge of the Messiah and how through the use of cedar and hyssop Messiah would fulfill the red heifer sacrifice, and thus the requirement for purification and redemption of all mankind. “*Men of all nations came to listen to Solomon’s wisdom, sent by all the kings of the world, who heard of his wisdom*” (1 Kings 4:30).

🦁 **Hebrews 9:11-14** “But Christ/*Messiah* came as High Priest of the good things to come, with the greater and more perfect tabernacle not made with hands, that is, not of this creation. Not with the blood of goats and calves, but with His own blood He entered the Most Holy Place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption. For if the blood of bulls and goats and the ashes of a heifer, sprinkling the unclean, sanctifies for the purifying of the flesh, *how much more shall the blood of Christ/Messiah, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God/Elohim, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God/Elohim?*”

🦁 **Micah 6:8** “He has showed you. O man, what is good. And what does the LORD/*Yahweh* require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God/*Elohim*.”

The Journey Continues...

In Numbers 20-21, the Israelites arrived at the Desert of Zin near Kadesh. It is here Moses' sister Miriam died. Soon the Israelite community began to grumble against Moses for lack of water. This time, their discontent was not out of complaining. When Moses and Aaron were called to *speak* to the Rock for a miraculous flow of water, they spoke harshly to the Israelites then *struck* the rock of their provision/salvation out of anger.

Moses and Aaron were tired of the grumbling and complaining. However, in this next round, there was a difference in the bleating of the sheep. Their cry was for help. Moses and Aaron had not noticed that when God/*Elohim* answered it was not out of judgment nor was there a plague or death. So for them to vent anger and “bark” back at the sheep then use God's/*Elohim* rod to strike the rock for no reason was totally inappropriate. God/*Elohim* intended for the sheep to be led by mercy and truth. Not hit with harsh words. The sheep were tired and needed help. To show a stony heart at this point in their journey was unjust and rendered Moses and Aaron unclean. This attitude proved very costly on their part. Like the Israelites before them, who were judged unfit to enter the Land, they also were prevented from entering in.

The parsha ends with the Edomites denying the Israelites permission to pass through their borders (Esau's lineage and territory). As the Israelites came to Mount Hor, God/*Elohim* informed them it was time for Aaron to pass his duties and authority to Eleazar. Together with Moses, they ascend the top of Mount Hor, and there Moses removed Aaron's high priest garments and placed them on his son Eleazar along with the anointing. Aaron then died before the whole community, and they mourned him thirty days before moving camp.

The Israelites continued their journey by the Red Sea to avoid Edom. On route, a Canaanite king took offense and went to war capturing several Israelites. As Israel prayed God/*Elohim* gave them victory, however, once again the community became discouraged and cursed Moses and God/*Elohim* for their malcontent and called the bread worthless. This time, God/*Elohim* sent poisonous snakes among them.

Lack of bread and water was a direct result of their attitudes (*lashon hara*) toward the Holy One guiding them. This mindset dried up the Living Water and made the manna tasteless. In other words, their hearts rendered Yeshua and Torah unpalatable to them. As a result, God/*Elohim* sent poisonous snakes among them that they might cry out in repentance for Him to save them. As Moses prayed, he was told to make a serpent to lift high on a pole for all see. Those who saw lived. This bronze serpent reflected the love and forgiveness Yeshua had for them, as the pole would foreshadow the type of death He would suffer on their behalf as they cried out to Him.

 **1 Corinthians 15:54-58** “So when this corruptible has put on incorruption, and

this mortal has put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: ‘Death is swallowed up in victory.’ ‘O Death, where *is* your sting? O Hades, where *is* your victory?’ The sting of death *is* sin, and the strength of sin *is* the law. But thanks *be* to God/*Elohim*, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ/*Yeshua HaMashiach*. Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord (Isaiah 25:8; Hosea 13:14).

As the Israelites traveled toward Moab and the Amorites (Lot’s descendants), they camped at Oboth (*meaning desires*), Iye Abarim (*mountain beyond*), Zered Valley (*brook*), and Arnon (*rushing water*). From there they continued to Beer (*a well*), where they were given water. They then traveled into the desert to Mattanah (*gift of God/Elohim*), Nahaliel (*valley of God/Elohim*), Bamoth (*high places*) to the valley in Moab. The people of Moab and Ammon refused to allow passage through their land. Instead, they entered into war and lost their land to the Israelites (Numbers 21:21-22:1).

To be continued...

Shabbat Shalom
Julie Parker

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