

RED HEIFER

In this teaching I will show how the Red Heifer sacrifice spoken of in the Book of



Numbers is a prophetic picture of Yeshua. As we go through the idea we will see the thematic connections and symbolic similarities between the red heifer sacrifice and the returning of Yeshua in the last days.

We might ask ourselves why the red heifer sacrifice is even necessary? It is because of the spiritual death of human beings that there must be a red heifer sacrifice. In the days of old the sacrifice was for the death of the sins of the people Israel. It was almost always associated with the building or rebuilding of the Temple. Yeshua came as the red heifer sacrifice to raise human's from the death, sin (lawlessness), gives us.

There are said to have been only seven red heifer sacrifices in the history of the world.

TEMPLE LOCATION

I think it would be appropriate to explain briefly about the temples and synagogues of old. The temples and synagogues of Yahveh in Israel were always built just below the top of hills. The occult pagan temples (including the Roman Catholic Churches), were almost always built at the very top of hills. The Dome on the rock for example is built on the highest place on the Temple Mount. Many believe the Dome was built over the original Temple but this is just not the case. The original Temple was built somewhere between the existing Dome and synagogue on the temple mount.

In the Book of Nehemiah (Neh. 3:1-32) we see details of Nehemiah's Temple and the ten gates around it. We see Nehemiah's description of the ten gates starting and ending with the Sheep gate. He explains them counter clockwise. The Hebrew word for the "inspection gate" is Mipgad, Strong's #4662. It comes from #6485 meaning: to count, spot, census, a number, or a designated spot. The importance of the inspection gate will be explained as we proceed.

THE SACRIFICE

In regard to the Red Heifer sacrifice we need to look very closely at one of the ten gates around the old city. The gate we are concerned with is called the "Mipgad Gate", or "Inspection Gate". Always keep this "inspection" idea in mind when reading about the red heifer sacrifice.

We read about the Red Heifer sacrifice in the Book of Numbers. **Num. 19:1-11**

"Then the Lord spoke to Moses and Aaron, saying, 2 "This is the statute of the law which

the Lord has commanded,

saying, 'Speak to the sons of Israel that they bring you an

unblemished red heifer in which is no defect and on which a yoke has never

been placed. 3 You shall give it to Eleazar the priest,

and it shall be brought

outside the camp and be slaughtered in his presence. 4 Next Eleazar the priest

shall take some of its blood with his finger and sprinkle some of its blood

toward the front of the tent of meeting seven times. 5 Then the heifer shall be

burned in his sight; its hide and its flesh and its blood,

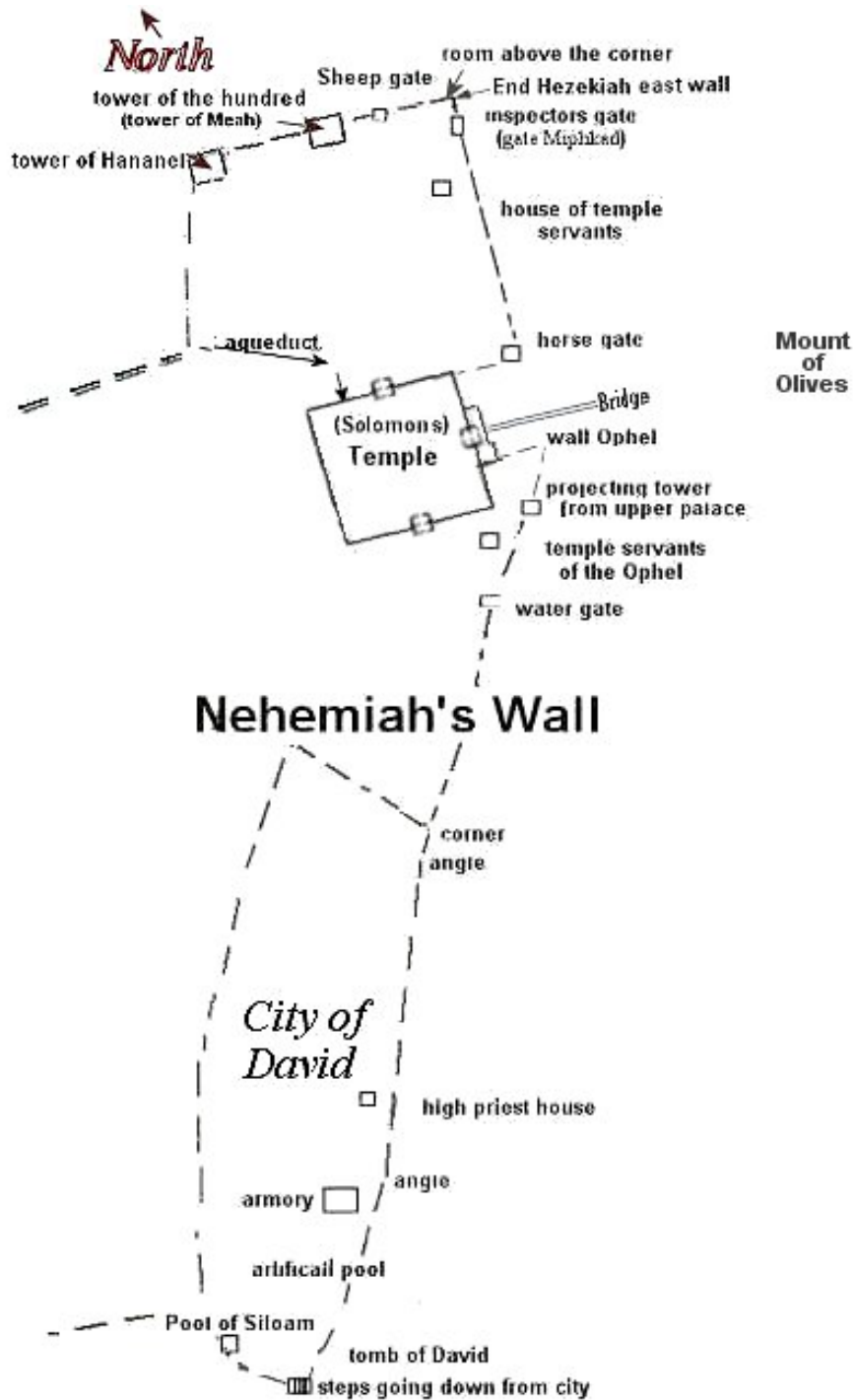
with its refuse, shall be burned. 6 The priest shall take cedar wood and

hyssop and scarlet material and cast it into the midst of the burning heifer. 7 The priest shall then wash

his clothes and bathe his body in water, and afterward come into the camp, but the priest shall be unclean

until evening. 8 The one who burns it shall also wash his clothes in water and bathe his body in water, and shall be unclean until

evening. 9 Now a man who is clean shall gather up the ashes of the heifer and deposit



evening. 9 Now a man who is clean shall gather up the ashes of the heifer and deposit

them outside the camp in a clean place, and the congregation of the sons of Israel shall keep it as water to remove impurity; it is purification from sin. 10 The one who gathers the ashes of the heifer shall wash his clothes and be unclean until evening; and it shall be a perpetual statute to the sons of Israel and to the alien who sojourns among them.

The priest would take the heifer, and while facing it directly towards the temple, would slit its throat with his right hand, collecting blood in a basin with his left hand. Then with his right hand he would dip the tip of his finger into the blood and sprinkle it seven times towards the doors of the temple. Then they would burn the animal until there was nothing left but ashes. The ashes were then beaten. Then they would scoop up the ashes and put them in a clean (clay box type vessel) in a clean place. After three days they would take the ashes, mix them with water and sprinkle them on and over the people. After doing this on the seventh day, the nation was deemed as clean. This ceremony should remind us of Yom Kippur and atonement.

THE INSPECTION (MIPGAD) GATE

This sacrifice was done outside the camp, north east of the Temple. The priest would lead the red heifer through the inspection gate where it was inspected by all. They would then take the heifer from the temple area, lead it outside the city gate to the Mount of Olives, where it would be sacrificed. **Lev. 1:11** *"He shall slay it on the side of the altar northward before the Lord, and Aaron's sons the priests shall sprinkle its blood around on the altar."*

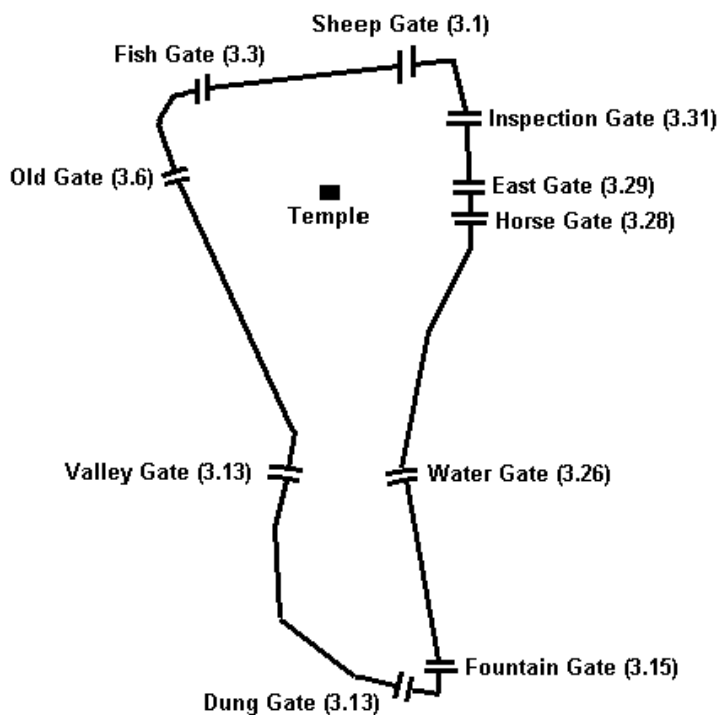
When the priest was at the Mt. of Olives, he would take the red heifer and face it west towards the temple before it was sacrificed. At the same time the temple doors would be opened so that the heifer would be looking directly through the inspection gate, and the temple doors, directly into the Holy of Holies.

From the Inspection gate north to where some sacrifices were made outside the camp, was a special road with a three teared bridge connecting the Temple to the sacrificial altar on the Mount of olives. This stone trail went right through the Kidron Valley. This paved road made it possible for anyone on it to avoid stepping over the graves and tombs of the rich. Stepping over a

dead mans grave, according to tradition, made one unclean.

These sacrifices outside the temple are being discussed in scripture as seen in **Ezek. 43:18-21** *"And He said to me, "Son of man, thus says the Lord God, 'These are the statutes for the altar on the day it is built, to offer burnt offerings on it and to sprinkle blood on it. 19 You shall give to the Levitical priests who are from the offspring of Zadok, who*

Nehemiah's Jerusalem



draw near to Me to minister to Me,' declares the Lord God, 'a young bull for a sin offering. 20 You shall take some of its blood and put it on its four horns and on the four corners of the ledge and on the border round about; thus you shall cleanse it and make atonement for it. 21 You shall also take the bull for the sin offering, and it shall be burned in the appointed place of the house, outside the sanctuary.' The Hebrew word used for "appointed" here is non other than "Mipgad". We see in another verse where the Hebrew word for "numbered" is used in regard to the inspection gate being the place where men were counted as they passed through the gate. This was how they took "census". Numbered, inspected, census, and special place or spot (mipgad) were referring to the inspection gate. In Exodus we see an example of census, numbering, counting, in reference to the mipgad gate. Number is "paquad" in Hebrew. It is the foundational word for mipgad. **Exod. 38:25-26** *"The silver of those of the congregation who were **numbered** was 100 talents and 1,775 shekels, according to the shekel of the sanctuary; 26 a beka a head (that is, half a shekel according to the shekel of the sanctuary), for each one who passed over to those who were **numbered**, from twenty years old and upward, for 603,550 **men**.* In verse twenty six we see the Hebrew word for men being used here, as "golgolet". Golgolet means, a skull, head or poll. You can already see the connection here between a man, a skull and a poll in connection with inspection.

GOLGOLET..GOLGOTHA

The inspection gate was directly across from where Yeshua died at Calvary. It is commonly called "golgotha". Golgatha may look like a hill in the shape of a skull but I think that is mostly because photographers have managed to make it look that way with their photographs. It is called golgotha because it was the gate where the census was done. Many misinformed individuals have made people think that Yeshua died in a place that looked like a skull. This is simply an error. The skull part is in regard to the inspection gate and has nothing to do with a hill that supposedly looks like a skull. On the night in which Yeshua was betrayed He had to go through the Mipgad gate. He fell to the ground right in front of the inspection gate where Simon Peter carried the stake for Him all the way to the spot where He was crucified on the Mt. of Olives. Many people witnessed His death because it was along the main road. Yeshua was crucified on the main road to the Mt. of Olives east of the temple. He died looking westward at the place where census took place, through the temple doors and directly into the holy of Holies, after He was thoroughly inspected.

CEDAR WOOD, HYSSOP AND SCARLET

When they sacrificed the red heifer outside the camp, they would burn it up in its entirety. During the ceremony the priest would take cedar wood wrapped with hyssop and scarlet thread and burn it with the sacrifice. **Num. 19:6** *"The priest shall take **cedar wood and hyssop and scarlet material** and cast it into the midst of the burning heifer."*

PROPHETICALLY SPEAKING

When we look at this simple idea prophetically, we see Yeshua as cyclical, the beginning and end. He came through the sheep gate originally as the lamb of Yah and when He returns He will come back through the East gate. Then He will inspect all His people coming through the Inspection Gate in-between the East and Sheep gate. **Matt. 25:31-32** *"But when the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the angels with Him, then*

He will sit on His glorious throne. 32 All the nations will be gathered before Him; and He will separate them from one another, as the shepherd separates the sheep from the goats; 33 and He will put the sheep on His right, and the goats on the left. Before Yeshua comes back through the sheep gate something must prophetically happen at the inspection gate. The last gate before the return of Yeshua is the inspection gate, and it is symbolic of Yeshua separating His sheep from the goats.

We can look back at the Exodus when the original Israelites in the wilderness were not allowed to cross over the Jordan River because of their constant disobedience of Yah's law. Prior to crossing over everyone was inspected, and it was found that only the next generation were allowed to cross over (become Hebrews) and go into the Promised Land. Prophetically speaking, when Yeshua returns He will inspect all of His people and only those of us who have followed Him will go into the promised land we know as Heaven.

2Cor. 5:10 *"For we must all appear before **the judgment seat of Messiah**, so that each one may be recompensed for his deeds in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad."*

Hebr. 9:13-14 *"For if the blood of goats and bulls and the **ashes of a heifer** sprinkling those who have been defiled sanctify for the cleansing of the flesh, **14** how much more will the blood of Messiah, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without blemish to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?"*

THE MYSTERY

Why did they not use a white heifer?

We know sin is connected with the color red, so why not white? This is a paradox.

Why was it that the very sacrifice that made the nation clean from sin, made those participating in the sacrifice unclean?

Num. 19:7 *"The priest shall then wash his clothes and bathe his body in water, and afterward come into the camp, **but the priest shall be unclean until evening.**"* To this day Orthodox Jews believe that this mystery is the greatest mystery in scripture. They believe it was the only thing Solomon was unable to figure out.

The heifer, representing sin, was burned outside the camp, why was this?

Sin was to be kept outside the camp. Everyone touching that red heifer became unclean.

PROPHETIC CONNECTIONS

- The red heifer was examined by the High Priest before it was sacrificed.

Yeshua was examined by the High Priest Caiaphas before He was sacrificed.

- Yeshua remained in the grave for three days and then He appeared in a white robe, sinless. This happened because He had been mikved into the word of Yah and made whole. He had fulfilled every part of the torah in regard to the sacrifices and every prophesy had become true. He was washed in the water of life, which was the living Word. **Hebr. 9:13-14** *"For if the blood of goats and bulls and **the ashes of a heifer** sprinkling those who have been defiled sanctify for the cleansing of the flesh, **14** how much more will the blood of Messiah, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without blemish to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God? When Yeshua returns He is going to do the same thing. He will cleanse the*

people of "dead works".

- The priest would lead the red heifer outside the city gate to the Mount of Olives to be sacrificed.

Yeshua was lead outside the same city gate to the exact same location to be sacrificed.

- The ashes of the red heifer were kept in a clean place for three days before they were made clean. These ashes were used to take away the sins of the world.

Yeshua, like the ashes of the heifer in their clay box, was buried in a clean place, the tomb prepared for Joseph of Arimathea.

- The red heifer had to be purchased with money from the temple treasury.

Yeshua was likewise betrayed, purchased with 30 shekels of silver from the temple treasury. Silver represents redemption.

- The red heifer had to be unblemished, just like Yeshua (without sin), born of a virgin.

The Roman's had no priest qualified to crucify Yeshua.

NUGGETS

- The priest had to sprinkle the blood seven times towards the temple, one for each day of the week and one symbolically for each millennium of creation.



- The curtain in front of the Holy of Holies was to be open when the heifer was sacrificed so the priest could see directly into the holy place.

- It was not till after the ashes of the red heifer were combined with living water after three days that life was brought forward. Only after this living water mixture was sprinkled on the people were their sins removed.

- Being baptized with living water is symbolic of the dead heifer ashes combined with the living water of torah (Yeshua). We are baptized from death to life when we are immersed. After that, on the third and seventh day we are declared clean.
- Yeshua was hung on a cedar tree and given sour wine (gall..hyssop), forced to wear a crimson robe which represented the sins of the world.
- Crimson thread is made from the wool of a sheep, dipped in red dye.
- When Yeshua stated that He was the way, the narrow gate, He was making reference to the red heifer going through the narrow inspection gate. **Matt. 7:13-14** ***“Enter by the narrow gate; for the gate is wide, and the way is broad that leads to destruction, and many are those who enter by it. 14 “For the gate is small, and the way is narrow that leads to life, and few are those who find it.” “No one gets through to the Father except they come through Me”*** This again is in reference to the red heifer going through the gate to the Mount of Olives where it was sacrificed. You must go through and be inspected at the narrow gate, then you can enter into the temple and further on into the Holy of Holies to be in the presence of Yah. In order to go through that gate you must also go through the "valley of death" without fearing evil, represented by the Kidron Valley to Mt. Olive. **Ps. 23:4** ***Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I fear no evil, for You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.”*** **Zech. 14:4-5** ***"In that day His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, which is in front of***

*Jerusalem on the east; and **the Mount of Olives will be split in its middle from east to west by a very large valley**, so that half of the mountain will move toward the north and the other half toward the south. 5 **You will flee by the valley of My mountains**, for the valley of the mountains will reach to Azel; yes, you will flee just as you fled before the earthquake in the days of Uzziah king of Judah. Then the Lord, my God, will come, and all the holy ones with Him! **Zech. 14:16-17** "Then it will come about that any who are left of all the nations that went against Jerusalem will go up from year to year to worship the King, the Lord of hosts, and to celebrate the Feast of Booths. 17 **And it will be that whichever of the families of the earth does not go up to Jerusalem to worship the King, the Lord of hosts, there will be no rain on them.**"*

- You must pass the white washed tombs of the rich dead (Pharisees) who look clean on the outside but are full of evil on the inside, before you can enter through the inspection gate.
- Yeshua not only came as the red heifer sacrifice, but also as the lamb of God sacrifice.
- Yeshua was born in a sukkah (manger) in the same way that the red heifer may have been born. He was born in a sukkah where goats are often born and raised to be later used as the atonement sacrifice for the sins of the world, for Yom Kippur.
- When Yeshua died everyones eyes were on Him, then a thirty ton rock above the veil in the Holy of holies fell to the ground catching everyones attention in the city. Then He faced the Holy of Holies just like the red heifer did when it was sacrificed.
- When Yah saw His Son's face it was covered with blood, (sin), so He could not look at Him, He had to turn away from sin. Then in the book of Matthew we see Yeshua pointing the people to Psalm 22 so they would understand who it was they were crucifying. **Matt. 27:46** "About the ninth hour Yeshua cried out with a loud voice, saying, "Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?" that is, "**My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?**" Now look at **Ps. 22:1** "**My God, my God, why have You forsaken me? Far from my deliverance are the words of my groaning.**"

The three elements of earth are fire, water and air. The baptism of fire is in reference to the red heifer sacrifice. The red heifer sacrifice was symbolic of Yeshua. Fire, water, and air are the three elements required to be born again. The fire, ashes and water of the red heifer sacrifice are essential to our life as believers. Water is representative of the living water, or torah. The air is representative of the breath or life of the Ruach Hakodesh (Holy Spirit).

- Even today the Orthodox Jews know and believe that the next red heifer will mean that Yeshua is about to return.
- Many believe Yeshua doesn't come back until the third temple is desecrated by the anti-messiah. The temple can't be started until a red heifer sacrifice occurs. Right now (the summer of 2015), there are several red heifers alive in Israel, about three years old. They appear to qualify as acceptable sacrifices if a sacrifice was required.

SUMMARY

As we can see, understanding the red heifer sacrifice opens our eyes to the fulfilled prophecies of Yeshua that pointed to Him at Calvary and again in the end of days. The thematic connections are very interesting and prove once again that there are nuggets hidden in scriptures if we just take the time to have a close look. Whenever you hold up

that diamond to the light, (Yah's Living Word), you will see new and incredible biblical connections that never seem to cease. It seems there is no end to the shine of the light of that diamond known as the light of the world, Yeshua.

(Mar 19/16) Jerry Hennig