### Numbers

## Chapter 19

1Then the Lord spoke to Moses and Aaron and said:  
  
 2‘This is a commandment of the Law that Jehovah has given to you:  
  
 ‘Speak to the sons of IsraEl and tell them to bring you a red heifer that has no blemishes or defects and which has never worn a yoke, 3then give her to EliEzer the Priest.  
  
 ‘He must thereafter have them take it to a clean place outside of the camp and slaughter it there before him. 4Then EliEzer must take some of its blood and sprinkle it in front of the Tent of Proofs 7 times, 5and they must burn it to ashes before him, making sure that its skin, flesh, blood, and dung are totally consumed.  
  
 6‘Afterward, the Priest must take some cedar wood, some hyssop, and some scarlet-colored wool, and throw it into the [fire] that’s burning the heifer.  
  
 7‘Then the Priest must wash his clothes, bathe in water, and go into the camp. However, he must remain unclean until that evening. 8Also, the person who burns [the heifer] must wash his clothes, take a bath, and be unclean until that evening.  
  
 9‘Then a clean man must gather up the heifer’s ashes and lay them aside in a clean place outside of the camp for the gathering of the children of IsraEl, so as to make a water to sprinkle for purification... 10And this man who gathers up the heifer’s ashes must wash his clothes and be unclean until the evening.  
  
  
 ‘This is a law for the children of IsraEl and for the aliens that join with them throughout the ages:  
  
 11‘Whoever touches a human corpse must be unclean for 7 days.  
  
 12‘He must then be purified both on the 3rd day and on the 7th day, and he will be clean. But if he isn’t purified on the 3rd and 7th days, he won’t be clean. 13For, anyone who touches the carcass of a man who’s died, and doesn’t get purified, will defile the Tent of Jehovah.  
  
 ‘So, that person must be cut off from IsraEl… If the cleansing water isn’t sprinkled on him, he will be unclean and will remain unclean!  
  
  
 14‘This is also the law:  
  
 ‘Whenever a man dies inside a house, anyone who enters that house and everything in that house must be unclean for 7 days. 15All jars that are open and don’t have lids that are tightly sealed, must be unclean.  
  
 16‘Also, anyone who touches a man who was murdered, or a cadaver, or a human bone, or even a tomb, must be unclean for 7 days.  
  
 17‘Then they must take the burnt ashes of purification and pour them into a jar with running water to make the [water of] purification. 18Thereafter, a clean man must take some hyssop and dip it into the water, and sprinkle the house, the furniture, and all the people who are there that may have touched the human bone, or the murdered man, or the cadaver, or the tomb.  
  
 19‘The clean man must sprinkle it upon the unclean people on the 3rd and 7th days. Then on the 7th day, he must purify himself, wash his clothes, take a bath, and be unclean until the evening.  
  
 20‘Any man who’s become unclean and chooses not to purify himself must be cut off from among the gathering, because he’s dirtied the holy things of Jehovah… If the cleansing water hasn’t been sprinkled on him, he will remain unclean.  
  
 21‘And it’s the law throughout the ages that whoever sprinkles the water of purification must wash his clothes, and whoever even touches the water must be unclean until evening. 22Also, everything that an unclean man touches must be unclean, and anyone who touches [that thing] must be unclean until the evening.’