

Red Heifers

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For Discussion: Is There A Plan To Conduct A Red Heifer Sacrifice In 2024?

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Is There A Plan To Conduct A Red Heifer Sacrifice In 2024?

...Those who are Jewish are talking about the possibility of a red heifer sacrifice because many of them believe that it would be a giant step toward re-instituting their ancient sacrificial system for the first time in nearly 2,000 years. Christians...because many of them believe that it would be a giant step toward the fulfillment of Bible prophecy. And **Muslims...because many of them believe that there is a plot to take over the Temple Mount and remove the Al-Aqsa mosque.** In fact, once a red heifer sacrifice actually takes place, Muslims all over the globe are likely to go absolutely nuts.

<https://endoftheamericandream.com/is-there-a-plan-to-conduct-a-red-heifer-sacrifice-in-2024/>

Qualified priests have been prepared to conduct the sacrifice, the land on the Mount of Olives where the sacrifice will take place is ready, and an altar has been constructed.

And All Israel News recently reported that the Temple Institute actually wants to conduct a red heifer sacrifice “before Passover 2024”... In 2024, Passover falls on the 22nd of April.

Why should we care about the arrival of the red heifers in Israel?

It is a significant sign of the times. And Jesus commanded us to be watching for signs of His return...

Mark 13:37 – “*what I say to you, I say to all: Watch!*”

What is the significance of the red heifers in Israel?

To meet the requirements of the Old Testament law, a red heifer was needed to help accomplish the purification of the Israelites from uncleanness.

- Because red heifer ashes were necessary for the purification rites held at the temple, many have regarded the appearance of a red heifer today as heralding the construction of the third temple and thus the return of Christ.

According to rabbinical tradition, there have been nine red heifers sacrificed since Moses’ time.

- Since the destruction of the second temple, no red heifers have been slaughtered.
- The rabbi Maimonides (1135—1204) taught that the tenth red heifer would be sacrificed by the Messiah Himself (Parah Adumah, ch. 3, § 4).

What is the current status of the red heifers in Israel?

The Temple Institute, a group advocating the construction of a third temple, reports that five flawless red heifers from Texas arrived in Israel on September 15, 2022. Many people view this event as a fulfillment of prophecy, since the acquisition of a red heifer is a major step forward in plans for a new temple.

- These 5 came of age in late October, 2023 and must be sacrificed during their 3rd year (by October, 2024)

How so we know there must be a third temple in Jerusalem before the Lord returns?

Matthew 24:15-21 – *when you see the ‘abomination of desolation,’ spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place... then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains... For then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be.*

There has to be a temple in Jerusalem for the abomination of desolation to take place.

Daniel 9:27 – *he shall confirm a covenant with many for one week; But in the middle of the week he shall bring an end to sacrifice and offering. And on the wing of abominations shall be one who makes desolate*

The Abomination of Desolation will occur at the mid-point of the Tribulation, 70th week of Daniel.

2 Thessalonians 2:3-4 – *the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition, who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshiped, so that he sits as God in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God.*

The Antichrist will enter the 3rd temple and declare himself to be God.

What is set up at the Abomination of Desolation?

Daniel 11:12 – *from the time that the daily sacrifice is taken away, and the abomination of desolation is set up, there shall be one thousand two hundred and ninety days*

The sacrilegious object Jesus called “the abomination of desolation” could be the “*image of the beast*” that the Antichrist’s right-hand man, the false prophet, will order to be set up and worshiped...

Revelation 13:14 – *he deceives those who dwell on the earth by those signs which he was granted to do in the sight of the beast, telling those who dwell on the earth to make an image to the beast who was wounded by the sword and lived*

What is driving Israel to build a temple in Jerusalem?

The religious Jews want a temple because they believe it is necessary for Messiah to return (they are actually right).

- Even the secular Jews want a temple because it is part of their heritage as a people.

What other criteria must the red heifers meet?

The Mosaic Law specified that the red heifer was to be “*without defect or blemish*” and to have never borne a yoke.

- The slaughtering of a red heifer is described in Numbers 19:1–10.
- The sacrifice of the red heifer was unique in the law in that it used a female animal, it was sacrificed away from the entrance to the tabernacle, and it was the only sacrifice in which the color of the animal was specified.
- The red heifer ritual as established in the Mosaic Law was fairly simple; Judaism has added extra criteria in the oral traditions documented in the Mishnah and Talmud.
 - the type of rope the red heifer was to be bound with, the direction it was to face when being slaughtered, the words spoken by the priest, the wearing of sandals during the ritual, etc.
 - rules listed many things that would disqualify a red heifer from being sacrificed: if she had been ridden or leaned on, if she had a garment placed over her, if a bird had rested on her, and if she had more than two non-red hairs in a single follicle

How do the commands concerning the red heifer foreshadow the sacrifice of Christ for believers’ sin?

- The Lord Jesus was “without blemish,” just as the red heifer was to be.
- As the heifer was sacrificed “outside the camp” (Numbers 19:3), Jesus was crucified outside of Jerusalem (Hebrews 13:11–12).

- Just as the ashes of the red heifer cleansed people from the contamination of death, so the sacrifice of Christ saves us from the penalty of death.

Must a red heifer be sacrificed before the rapture occurs?

No, Jesus could return to receive His own at any moment. The rapture is not contingent on any development.

Must a red heifer be found before the temple is rebuilt?

Not necessarily, although temple advocates certainly want one for ceremonial purposes.

Are animal sacrifices of any type required today?

No, Jesus fulfilled all the requirements of the law, and His sacrifice provides true forgiveness and life eternal.

Hebrews 9:13–14 – *The ashes of a heifer sprinkled on those who are ceremonially unclean sanctify them so that they are outwardly clean. How much more, then, will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself unblemished to God, cleanse our consciences from acts that lead to death, so that we may serve the living God!*

Is it likely there will be a third temple in Jerusalem any time soon?

Currently it is a political impossibility... just like it was a political impossibility that Jews scattered among the nations would return to Israel.

Matthew 19:26 – *with God all things are possible*

What development could cause the politics to change allowing the Jews to build a temple in Jerusalem?

Daniel 9:27 – *Then he shall confirm a covenant with many for one week; but in the middle of the week he shall bring an end to sacrifice and offering.*

The covenant that the Antichrist makes with Israel may be the one that allows a temple to be rebuilt.

- The aftermath of some war may precipitate this covenant (either Psalm 83 or Ezekiel 38).

What should it tell us that the Jews are getting ever closer to building a third temple?

We have to be close to the Tribulation and thus even closer to the end of the Church Age.

- God is preparing to work through Israel again.

What applications do we see from this discussion?

The sacrifice of the red heifers in Israel is a significant sign of the times.