

# Numbers 19:10

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And he that gathereth the ashes of the heifer shall wash his clothes, and be unclean until the even: and it shall be unto the children of Israel, and unto the stranger that sojourneth among them, for a statute for ever.

## Analysis

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The gathered ashes were kept for 'a water of separation: it is a purification for sin.' These ashes, mixed with water, provided ongoing cleansing for corpse contamination throughout Israel's wandering. One sacrifice thus served repeatedly for the whole community. This anticipates Christ's one sacrifice providing perpetual cleansing for all believers across all time.

## Historical Context

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The Hebrew term for 'water of separation' (mei niddah) implies separation from uncleanness. These ashes remained potent indefinitely, kept in a clean place for use whenever needed. This permanent provision demonstrated God's merciful accommodation to death's unavoidable presence in a fallen world.

## Related Passages

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**Ephesians 2:8** — Salvation by grace through faith

**Romans 10:9** — Confession and belief for salvation

**Colossians 1:16** — All things created through Christ

## Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

## Study Questions

1. How does Christ's once-for-all sacrifice continue to provide cleansing for believers today?
2. What daily contaminations require you to appropriate Christ's ongoing cleansing work?

## Interlinear Text

לְבָנָיו וְיִתְמַמֵּן אַתְּ עַד כַּבֵּשׂ הַיּוֹם וְיִתְמַמֵּן  
and be unclean H5704 until the even H6153 and it shall be unto the children H1961 H1121

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