

Faith of Rahab
COURAGE TO IDENTIFY

PASTOR PAUL CHAPPELL | SEPTEMBER 29, 2024

Text: Joshua 2:1-13

“And Joshua the son of Nun sent out of Shittim two men to spy secretly, saying, Go view the land, even Jericho. And they went, and came into an harlot’s house, named Rahab, and lodged there. 2 And it was told the king of Jericho, saying, Behold, there came men in hither to night of the children of Israel to search out the country. 3 And the king of Jericho sent unto Rahab, saying, Bring forth the men that are come to thee, which are entered into thine house: for they be come to search out all the country. 4 And the woman took the two men, and hid them, and said thus, There came men unto me, but I wist not whence they were: 5 And it came to pass about the time of shutting of the gate, when it was dark, that the men went out: whither the men went I wot not: pursue after them quickly; for ye shall overtake them. 6 But she had brought them up to the roof of the house, and hid them with the stalks of flax, which she had laid in order upon the roof. 7 And the men pursued after them the way to Jordan unto the fords: and as soon as they which pursued after them were gone out, they shut the gate. 8 And before they were laid down, she came up unto them upon the roof; 9 And she said unto the men, I know that the LORD hath given you the land, and that your terror is fallen upon us, and that all the inhabitants of the land faint because of you. 10 For we have heard how the LORD dried up the water of the Red sea for you, when ye came out of Egypt; and what ye did unto the two kings of the Amorites, that were on the other side Jordan, Sihon and Og, whom ye utterly destroyed. 11 And as soon as we had heard these things, our hearts did melt, neither did there remain any more courage in any man, because of you: for the LORD your God, he is God in heaven above, and in earth beneath. 12 Now therefore, I pray you, swear unto me by the LORD, since I have shewed you kindness, that ye will also shew kindness unto my father’s house, and give me a true token: 13 And that ye will save alive my father, and my mother, and my brethren, and my sisters, and all that they have, and deliver our lives from death.” (Joshua 2:1-13)

INTRODUCTION

- Jericho was first city fortified in Canaan that Joshua faced
- Joshua sent 2 spies to find out about the city

"By faith the harlot Rahab perished not with them that believed not, when she had received the spies with peace." (Hebrews 11:31)

1. THE SIN OF RAHAB (v. 1)

"For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;"
(Romans 3:23)

A. A Reputation of iniquity - harlot, prostitute

"Thou hast set our iniquities before thee, our secret sins in the light of thy countenance." (Psalm 90:8)

"But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear. 3 For your hands are defiled with blood, and your fingers with iniquity; your lips have spoken lies, your tongue hath muttered perverseness. 4 None calleth for justice, nor any pleadeth for truth: they trust in vanity, and speak lies; they conceive mischief, and bring forth iniquity." (Isaiah 59:2-4)

B. A Reputation of idolatry - worship with child sacrifice

"When ye are passed over Jordan into the land of Canaan; 52 Then ye shall drive out all the inhabitants of the land from before you, and destroy all their pictures, and destroy all their molten images, and quite pluck down all their high places; 53 And ye shall dispossess the inhabitants of the land, and dwell therein: for I have given you the land to possess it." (Numbers 33:51-53)

"Thou shalt have no other gods before me." (Exodus 20:3)

- God wanted Israel to destroy the cities & people of Canaan in war

2. THE Salvation OF RAHAB (v. 9-11)

A. Her realization

SHE REALIZED WHO ISRAEL'S GOD IS

"And Moses said unto God, Behold, when I come unto the children of Israel, and shall say unto them, The God of your fathers hath sent me unto you; and they shall say to me, What is his name? what shall I say unto them? 14 And God said unto Moses, I AM THAT I AM; and he said, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, I AM hath sent me unto you."
(Exodus 3:13-14)

God & Moses

"Ye are my witnesses, saith the LORD, and my servant whom I have chosen: that ye may know and believe me, and understand that I am he: before me there was no God formed, neither shall there be after me. II I, even I, am the LORD; and beside me there is no saviour." (Isaiah 43:10-11)

Who is God?

SHE REALIZED GOD GAVE ISRAEL THE LAND

"And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."
(John 8:32)

"I know that ye are Abraham's seed; but ye seek to kill me, because my word hath no place in you." (John 8:37)

sinners

"Am I therefore become your enemy, because I tell you the truth?"
(Galatians 4:16)

"Not as Cain, who was of that wicked one, and slew his brother. And wherefore slew he him? Because his own works were evil, and his brother's righteous. 13 Marvel not, my brethren, if the world hate you." (1 John 3:12-13)

"Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth. 5 For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus;"
(1 Timothy 2:4-5)

Cain... works of murder

Jesus Christ the Mediator

B. Her repentance

Quote: "If God's today be too soon for thy repentance, thy tomorrow may be too late for God's acceptance."—**D. L. Moody**

"By faith the harlot Rahab perished not with them that believed not, when she had received the spies with peace."
(Hebrews 11:31)

"For they themselves shew of us what manner of entering in we had unto you, and how ye turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God;" (1 Thessalonians 1:9)

U turn to follow God

3. THE Service OF RAHAB (v. 12-18)

"Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone."
(James 2:17)

A. To Spare the spies Rahab first rescued lives of spies
"Likewise also was not Rahab the harlot justified by works, when she had received the messengers, and had sent them out another way?" (James 2:25)

Quote: "Faith shows itself in the whole personality!... True saving faith involves 'the whole personality': the mind is instructed, the emotions are stirred, and the will then acts in obedience to God."—Martin Lloyd Jones

B. To Save Her family

SHE HEARD THE WORD OF THE SPIES

SHE ACTED IN FAITH - red colored cord in her window (Josh 2:18)
Quote: "Faith does not operate in the realm of the possible. There is no glory for God in that which is humanly possible. Faith begins where man's power ends."—George Müller

"But Joshua had said unto the two men that had spied out the country, Go into the harlot's house, and bring out thence the woman, and all that she hath, as ye swore unto her. 23 And the young men that were spies went in, and brought Rahab, and her father, and her mother, and her brethren, and all that she had; and they brought out all her kindred, and left them without the camp of Israel." (Joshua 6:22-23) Saving Rahab's family

"And Joshua saved Rahab the harlot alive, and her father's household, and all that she had; and she dwelleth in Israel even unto this day; because she hid the messengers, which Joshua sent to spy out Jericho." (Joshua 6:25)

"And the blood shall be to you for a token upon the houses where ye are: and when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and the plague shall not be upon you to destroy you, when I smite the land of Egypt." (Exodus 12:13) Day of Passover

"And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission." (Hebrews 9:22)

"In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;" (Ephesians 1:7) redemption through Jesus blood

- red color thread through Bible leading to Jesus
* Rahab's red rope

"Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will, 6 To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved." (Ephesians 1:5-6)

"By faith the harlot Rahab perished not with them that believed not, when she had received the spies with peace." (Hebrews 11:31)

"And Salmon begat Booz of Rachab; and Booz begat Obed of Ruth; and Obed begat Jesse; 6 And Jesse begat David the king; and David the king begat Solomon of her that had been the wife of Urias;" (Matthew 1:5-6) - Rahab a Canaanite Ruth from Moab

Gentile women in King David's lineage

CONCLUSION

- Boaz was $\frac{1}{2}$ Gentile
- His son Obed $\frac{3}{4}$ Gentile
- Obed grandfather to King David
