



RAHAB

A Breakdown

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Introduction to Rahab (Joshua 2:1-7)

Setting: Rahab is introduced as a prostitute living in the fortified city of Jericho.

The Mission: Two Israelite spies sent by Joshua come to her house during their reconnaissance mission. Rahab hides them, knowing the king of Jericho's men are searching for them.

Significance: Despite her occupation, Rahab recognizes the hand of God at work and chooses to align herself with His people rather than her own.

Rahab's Faith Declaration (Joshua 2:8-11)

Professing Faith: Rahab expresses her belief in the God of Israel. She acknowledges His power and sovereignty, saying, *"The Lord your God is God in heaven above and on the earth below"* (Joshua 2:11).

Key Theme: Rahab demonstrates a remarkable faith in God, even though she was a Gentile and had limited knowledge of Him.

Rahab's Pact with the Spies (Joshua 2:12-21)

A Request for Protection: Rahab asks the spies to spare her and her family when Israel conquers Jericho.

The Scarlet Cord: The spies agree, instructing her to tie a scarlet cord in her window as a sign of her faith and a marker for her household's safety.

Symbolism: The scarlet cord is often interpreted as a foreshadowing of the blood of Christ, representing salvation and redemption.

Rahab's Legacy in Scripture

Mention in the Genealogy of Jesus (Matthew 1:5) Rahab is listed as the mother of Boaz, an ancestor of King David, and ultimately, Jesus Christ.

Significance: This highlights her inclusion in God's redemptive plan and His ability to use anyone for His purposes.

Rahab in the "Hall of Faith" (Hebrews 11:31) Rahab is praised for her faith: "By faith the prostitute Rahab, because she welcomed the spies, was not killed with those who were disobedient."

Key Takeaway: Her actions were driven by faith, not fear, earning her a place among the heroes of faith.

Rahab's Legacy in Scripture

Faith Demonstrated in Action (James 2:25)

James emphasizes Rahab's faith as active and alive: "In the same way, was not even Rahab the prostitute considered righteous for what she did when she gave lodging to the spies and sent them off in a different direction?"

Application: This highlights the importance of faith coupled with works.

Key Themes and Lessons

Faith Can Overcome Labels: Rahab's identity as a prostitute didn't limit her from being part of God's plan.

Lesson: God values faith and obedience over societal labels or past mistakes.

Courage in the Face of Fear: Rahab risked her life to protect the spies and align with God's purposes.

Lesson: True faith requires boldness and trust in God's protection.

God's Redemption is for All: Rahab's story shows that God's grace extends to all people, regardless of their background.

Lesson: No one is beyond the reach of God's transformative power.

Key Themes and Lessons

The Power of Testimony: Rahab's declaration of faith inspired the spies and likely influenced her family's salvation.

Lesson: Sharing your faith can have a profound impact on others.

God Uses Unlikely People: Rahab, a Gentile and an outsider, was chosen for a pivotal role in Israel's history.

Lesson: God often works through unexpected individuals to fulfill His purposes.