

Bibles???

The Word of God is the Absolute Truth and the Final Authority

Pray for moms...

Let's pray...

**[Jos 2:1-24 NKJV] 1 Now Joshua the son of Nun sent out two men from Acacia Grove to spy secretly, saying, "Go, view the land, especially Jericho." So they went, and came to the house of a harlot named Rahab, and lodged there. 2 And it was told the king of Jericho, saying, "Behold, men have come here tonight from the children of Israel to search out the country." 3 So the king of Jericho sent to Rahab, saying, "Bring out the men who have come to you, who have entered your house, for they have come to search out all the country." 4 Then the woman took the two men and hid them. So she said, "Yes, the men came to me, but I did not know where they [were] from. 5**

**"And it happened as the gate was being shut, when it was dark, that the men went out. Where the men went I do not know; pursue them quickly, for you may overtake them." 6**

**(But she had brought them up to the roof and hidden them with the stalks of flax, which she had laid in order on the roof.)**

**7 Then the men pursued them by the road to the Jordan, to the fords. And as soon as those who pursued them had gone out, they shut the gate. 8 Now before they lay down, she came up to them on the roof, 9 and said to the men: "I know that the LORD has given you the land, that the terror of you has fallen on us, and that all the inhabitants of the land are fainthearted because of you. 10 "For we have heard how the LORD dried up the water of the Red Sea for you when you came out of Egypt, and what you did to the two kings of the Amorites who [were] on the other side of the Jordan, Sihon and Og, whom you utterly destroyed. 11 "And as soon as we heard [these things],**

our hearts melted; neither did there remain any more courage in anyone because of you, for the LORD your God, He [is] God in heaven above and on earth beneath. 12 "Now therefore, I beg you, swear to me by the LORD, since I have shown you kindness, that you also will show kindness to my father's house, and give me a true token, 13 "and spare my father, my mother, my brothers, my sisters, and all that they have, and deliver our lives from death." 14 So the men answered her, "Our lives for yours, if none of you tell this business of ours. And it shall be, when the LORD has given us the land, that we will deal kindly and truly with you." 15 Then she let them down by a rope through the window, for her house [was] on the city wall; she dwelt on the wall. 16 And she said to them, "Get to the mountain, lest the pursuers meet you. Hide there three days, until the pursuers have returned. Afterward you may go your way." 17 So the men said to her: "We [will be] blameless

of this oath of yours which you have made us swear, 18  
"unless, [when] we come into the land, you bind this line of  
scarlet cord in the window through which you let us down, and  
unless you bring your father, your mother, your brothers, and  
all your father's household to your own home. 19 "So it shall  
be [that] whoever goes outside the doors of your house into  
the street, his blood [shall be] on his own head, and we [will  
be] guiltless. And whoever is with you in the house, his blood  
[shall be] on our head if a hand is laid on him. 20 "And if you  
tell this business of ours, then we will be free from your oath  
which you made us swear." 21 Then she said, "According to  
your words, so [be] it." And she sent them away, and they  
departed. And she bound the scarlet cord in the window. 22  
They departed and went to the mountain, and stayed there  
three days until the pursuers returned. The pursuers sought  
[them] all along the way, but did not find [them]. 23 So the two

**men returned, descended from the mountain, and crossed over; and they came to Joshua the son of Nun, and told him all that had befallen them. 24 And they said to Joshua, "Truly the LORD has delivered all the land into our hands, for indeed all the inhabitants of the country are fainthearted because of us."**

We finished chapter one last week in our study of the book of Joshua and we saw the transition in the leadership as Moses is dead and Joshua, a type of Jesus, is now going to lead the Children of Israel into the Promised Land.

And I have repeatedly reminded you that the Promised Land is a picture of the abundant life that we are to walk as believers in Christ.

It's all about entering into His promises, walking by faith and placing our trust in Him, no matter what the circumstances we face.

It is our choice, to either enter into the land or settle for second best – and we saw that last weeks as 2.5 tribes decided to settle on the other side of the Jordan.

That was their response to the Word of God – *We know what the word of God says – but, we have chosen to do what's best for us right now.*

So now we find the Children of Israel making provisions for the crossing of the Jordan River, they see the land that was promised to them, the land that their fathers refused to enter – it appears that they are ready to respond to the word of God.

**[Jos 2:1-2 NKJV] 1 Now Joshua the son of Nun sent out two men from Acacia Grove to spy secretly, saying, "Go, view the land, especially Jericho." So they went, and came to the house of a harlot named Rahab, and lodged there. 2 And it was told**

**the king of Jericho, saying, "Behold, men have come here tonight from the children of Israel to search out the country."**

Forty years earlier, Moses had sent 12 spies into the Promised Land and ten came back with a bad report, it was a report that demoralized that the Children of Israel.

That report was the reason that the Children of Israel did not enter into the Promised Land.

That report is the reason that they wandered the wilderness for forty years as an entire generation had to die in the wilderness.

But two of the spies, Joshua and Caleb, they came back with a good report.

However, the Children of Israel listened to the majority instead of trusting what God had promised them already.

So here Joshua sends two spies – why two, because that was the number required to be considered true witnesses.

That is why Jesus in Luke 10 (You guys can read it for homework) when He sends out the seventy – He sends them out two by two before Him – into the land, to be His witnesses.

These two individuals that Joshua sends into the Promised Land believe that they are being sent into the Promised Land as spies – and we will see that they are not even good spies because they almost got caught right away, but in reality we will see that they have been sent into the Promised Land as witnesses.

Church, just like these two spies – we may think we are school teachers or engineers or homemakers, but in reality, we are undercover agents for His kingdom.

God has planted us in these positions to be His witnesses.

The two spies are the first of the generation to experience the Promised Land.



And by witnessing to others, we too, are able to experience that abundant life.

Now Joshua tells them to check out Jericho,

Jericho was an impenetrable city close to the Jordan River.

It was surrounded by huge walls.

It is also the first city that the Children of Israel will have to conquer as they walk in the Promised Land.

And within the walls of Jericho, lived Rahab the harlot – she is a prostitute.

So the two spies find themselves in Rahab's house – why?

Because their cover has been blown – I told you they were bad spies - they are in hiding.

Listen, it was all part of God's plan that they get discovered and end up in Rahab's house.

**[Jos 2:3 NKJV] 3 So the king of Jericho sent to Rahab, saying, "Bring out the men who have come to you, who have entered your house, for they have come to search out all the country."**

Word has gotten to the king that the two spies are in Rahab's house.

Rahab the harlot can be found guilty of treason if she refuses to give up these two spies.

Let's see Rahab's response.

**[Jos 2:4-7 NKJV] 4 Then the woman took the two men and hid them. So she said, "Yes, the men came to me, but I did not know where they [were] from. 5 "And it happened as the gate was being shut, when it was dark, that the men went out.**

**Where the men went I do not know; pursue them quickly, for you may overtake them." 6 (But she had brought them up to the roof and hidden them with the stalks of flax, which she had**

**laid in order on the roof.) 7 Then the men pursued them by the road to the Jordan, to the fords. And as soon as those who pursued them had gone out, they shut the gate.**

Rahab leads the king's men in a wild goose chase.

Yes, they were here – but they left. They went that a way, you can chase them down if you hurry.

She makes this statement even though she knows that they are hiding on her rooftop.

She lied.

You might say, well it was a white lie.

However, a white lie is still a lie.

Would God had made provisions if Rahab would have turned the spies in – of course.

We don't help out God by being disobedient to His word.

[Jos 2:8-11 NKJV] 8 Now before they lay down, she came up to them on the roof, 9 and said to the men: **"I know that the LORD has given you the land,** that the terror of you has fallen on us, and that all the inhabitants of the land are fainthearted because of you. 10 "For **we have heard** how the LORD dried up the water of the Red Sea for you when you came out of Egypt, and what you did to the two kings of the Amorites who [were] on the other side of the Jordan, Sihon and Og, whom you utterly destroyed. 11 "And as soon as we heard [these things], **our hearts melted;** neither did there remain any more courage in anyone because of you, **for the LORD your God, He [is] God in heaven above and on earth beneath.**

I asked you to highlight Rahab declaring, "I know that he LORD has given you this land,"

**She is declaring her faith in the one true God. LORD is capitalized meaning she is referring to the God of the Israelites – Yahweh. She**

is not referring to any of the pagan gods that were worshipped by the Canaanites.

I also asked you to underline in verse 10 where she says, we have heard –

As a prostitute, as men would come and go they would share the stories of the Exodus and the battles that the Children of Israel fought in the desert.

She has responded in faith to what God has done for His people – she feared the Lord, and we see this in verse 11 as we get a glimpse of her heart.

Next to verse 11 you might want to write down Rom 10:9 because Rom 10:9 says

**[Rom 10:9 NKJV] 9 that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.**

The previous generation failed to go into the Promised Land because they feared what was on the other side of the river.

Yet, Rahab just notified the spies that it was the Canaanites who had already lost the will to fight after hearing story after story about what God had done for the Children of Israel.

**[Jos 2:12-13 NKJV] 12 "Now therefore, I beg you, swear to me by the LORD, since I have shown you kindness, that you also will show kindness to my father's house, and give me a true token, 13 "and spare my father, my mother, my brothers, my sisters, and all that they have, and deliver our lives from death."**

The Hebrew word that is used here for kindness is the word used to describe grace and mercy.

Rahab believes that judgment is coming upon Jericho and the Canaanites, she believes in the God of the Israelites – all she

seeks is grace and mercy so that she and her family will not be destroyed.

**[Jos 2:14-16 NKJV] 14 So the men answered her, "Our lives for yours, if none of you tell this business of ours. And it shall be, when the LORD has given us the land, that we will deal kindly and truly with you." 15 Then she let them down by a rope through the window, for her house [was] on the city wall; she dwelt on the wall. 16 And she said to them, "Get to the mountain, lest the pursuers meet you. Hide there three days, until the pursuers have returned. Afterward you may go your way."**

The assumption here is that the spies are speaking directly to Rahab and her family.

That is why the spies say – if none of you, instead of just saying if you don't tell this business of ours.

Rahab helps them escape by lowering them using a rope – this is important and she then instructs them to go hide in the mountains.

Why is that important???

Because earlier – she sent the king's men toward the river which is east. The mountains are opposite the river which means they would have to go west and hide for three days before crossing the Jordan again and returning to Joshua.

The men had no idea that Rahab had sent the king's men on the wild goose chase. They were up on the roof when they came to Rahab's house.

**[Jos 2:17-19 NKJV] 17 So the men said to her: "We [will be] blameless of this oath of yours which you have made us swear, 18 "unless, [when] we come into the land, you bind this line of scarlet cord in the window through which you let us down, and unless you bring your father, your mother, your**



**brothers, and all your father's household to your own home. 19**  
**"So it shall be [that] whoever goes outside the doors of your**  
**house into the street, his blood [shall be] on his own head, and**  
**we [will be] guiltless. And whoever is with you in the house,**  
**his blood [shall be] on our head if a hand is laid on him.**

The same rope that was used to lower the spies is the means of salvation for Rahab and her family.

Rahab must follow the instruction to a tee. The only way her and she will be saved is if she puts her trust on the scarlet cord and puts it on her window.

That is how the Children of Israel will know not to bring judgment upon her house.

**This is the story of the first Passover all over again.**

**Remember the last plague –**

The Israelites were commanded to put the blood of the Passover lamb on the door post and those homes that had the blood at the door post would be passed over when the plague came over Egypt.

**[Exo 12:13 NKJV] 13 'Now the blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you [are]. And when I see the blood, I will pass over you; and the plague shall not be on you to destroy [you] when I strike the land of Egypt.**

Church, this cord represented the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ, and it pointed toward the Lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world.

In fact, all of the Bible is about Jesus Christ and His blood redemption, and you will find this scarlet chord/thread throughout the Word of God.

Not only does it redeem us, it brings us into fellowship with God, it brings us into peace with God.

**[Col 1:20 NKJV] 20 and by Him to reconcile all things to Himself, by Him, whether things on earth or things in heaven, having made peace through the blood of His cross.**

And by His blood we are cleansed and by His blood we also overcome.

**[Jos 2:20 NKJV] 20 "And if you tell this business of ours, then we will be free from your oath which you made us swear."**

The way to redemption had to be followed to a tee. There is no other way.

Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.

**Not through Buddha or Mohammad or by being good – only through Him.**

**[Jos 2:21 NKJV] 21 Then she said, "According to your words, so [be] it." And she sent them away, and they departed. And she bound the scarlet cord in the window.**

As the spies leave, Rahab doesn't just think about what the spies have just told her, she responds to what they have told her and she immediately bound the scarlet cord to the window.

**[Jos 2:22-24 NKJV] 22 They departed and went to the mountain, and stayed there three days until the pursuers returned. The pursuers sought [them] all along the way, but did not find [them]. 23 So the two men returned, descended from the mountain, and crossed over; and they came to Joshua the son of Nun, and told him all that had befallen them. 24 And they said to Joshua, "Truly the **LORD has delivered all the land into our hands**, for indeed all the inhabitants of the country are fainthearted because of us."**

The two spies returned to Joshua and gave them the report that the Canaanites had lost the will to fight.

You see, the Israelites did not conquer the land because they were great warriors. They conquered the land because they placed their faith and trust in God.

After all, He is the One that put the fear in the hearts of the Canaanites.

**[Exo 23:27 NKJV] 27 "I will send My fear before you, I will cause confusion among all the people to whom you come, and will make all your enemies turn [their] backs to you.**

Never forget that God is the one that prepares our way for us, and when we finally get there – it will be ready for us.

Amen...

Regarding Rahab,

Almost every time that Rahab is mentioned in scripture, her name is always followed by “the harlot”

Even in the New Testament,

Rahab the harlot is one of only two women listed in Hebrews 11, the great chapter of faith. Isaiah, Jeremiah and Daniel are not even listed on that chapter yet we find Rahab the harlot.

She is the first gentile convert under the law as well as the first recorded conversion of a woman in the bible.

She is one of 4 women that are mentioned in the genealogy of Jesus Christ.

So why can't she lose “the harlot”

**We wouldn't want to be associated by our past sins right??**

I truly believe that the reason that we keep on seeing “the harlot” added to her name is to remind us of God's amazing grace.

That God would choose to save a person like Rahab – is a testimony that He truly does not desire that anyone shall perish.

The spies didn't bring back any military advantage for Joshua to use during their reconnaissance of Jericho.

However, looking back at chapter two, it was never intended to be a reconnaissance mission – it was always a rescue mission.

And that just shows us how much God loves each and every one of us.

Amen...

Let's pray...

To Receive Christ do the following:

Admit, "I am a sinner."

Confess and be willing to turn from your sin.

Believe, by faith that Jesus Christ died for you on the cross.

Receive, through prayer, Jesus Christ into your heart and receive eternal life.

Dear Lord Jesus,

I know that I am a sinner and need Your forgiveness. I believe that You died on the cross for my sins. Please forgive me for my sins and cleanse me by Your blood. I accept You by faith as my personal Lord and Savior. Give me a thirst for Your Word and Help me to follow You all of my days. In Jesus' name I pray, Amen.

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