



Rahab

Rahab was a resident of the Canaanite city of Jericho, an 8.5 acre fortress located in the Jordan Valley. Jericho was surrounded by hot desert, but boasted fresh-water springs. The city itself must have looked like an oasis in the hot desert. Morally corrupt, the people of Jericho participated in idol worship and the prostitution of both sexes. The blending of at least two religious systems were practiced in Jericho, as well as infant sacrifices. It was a wicked city under God's condemnation. As such, it would soon become the first city to be conquered after Israel passed into the Promised Land. Forty years had passed since God's miraculous deliverance of the Israelites out of slavery in Egypt, but the Canaanites still quaked in their boots because of God's demonstrative victory for His people over the mighty Egyptians and their Pharaoh (see Joshua 2:9-10).

Charles Ryrie described Rahab as “a Gentile, a woman, a pagan, and a prostitute, but she *believed* that God had given Canaan to the Israelites and *acted* on that faith by sending the spies another way.” By acting on her belief (a faith later credited to her as righteousness in Hebrews 11:31), she saved the spies, her family, and herself. Her faith motivated her into *action* - her faith was alive and it moved her to do something; to act on it. And that something wasn't necessarily “safe.”

Rahab's actions demonstrated her faith. And like us, her faith saved her.

1. List and read other passages in the Bible where Rahab is mentioned, writing brief notes about each.

Day 1

Read:

Joshua 2

Joshua 6

2. Research and describe the world in which Rahab lived.

1. Write a character sketch of Rahab based on what is revealed about her life, her choices and her actions from today's readings. (Think: character qualities)

Day 2

Read:

Joshua 2 & 6

Matthew 1:5

Hebrews 11:31

James 2:25

2. What can you infer about Rahab's thoughts or beliefs based on her actions described in today's readings?

1. List the pivotal point(s) of Rahab's story and her response(s) to each.

Day 3

Reread:

Joshua 2 & 6

Matthew 1:5

Hebrews 11:31

James 2:25

2. What can we learn Rahab's life and example?

1. How do you relate to Rahab or elements from her testimony?

Day 4

Reread:

Joshua 2 & 6

Matthew 1:5

Hebrews 11:31

James 2:25

2. What is God showing you through Rahab's story?

1. What overall theme(s) do you see in Rahab's life?

2. From the above list, pick the one theme God is impressing upon you and research what His Word has to say on that specific topic.

Day 5

Reread:

Joshua 2 & 6

Matthew 1:5

Hebrews 11:31

James 2:25

3. Write your own introduction to Rahab below based on your answer(s) above.