

THE RESCUE OF RAHAB - A LESSON FOR THE CHURCH

Rahab's Story Is Similar To Our Own:

1. RAHAB knew who she was: a prostitute, a reprobate. Unless we know exactly what we are: a sinner, there is no possibility for us to be saved; Josh. 2:1; Acts 17:30-31; James 4:4
2. Rahab was included among the faithful role models, was in the lineage of Jesus Christ and the stigma of her past was erased; Matt. 1:5; Heb. 2:11; 11:31
3. She was justified by faith and by works: saving faith is evidenced by works; James 2:25-26
4. Rahab lived in Jericho; her house was built upon the town wall of Jericho; Joshua 2:15
5. She lived under the influence of the "king of Jericho": a type of satan, one who rules through the strength of the flesh; Josh. 2:2-3; 6:2
 - a. He knows about "spies" who are sent out by "Joshua" and orders his city gates to be shut.
 - b. This king has "pursuers and mighty men" (demons and evil angels), which run after, or follow after men to overtake, persecute and hinder them at his command. But all of them have been given over unto the hand of "Joshua"; John 12:31; Colossians 2:15; Luke 9:1
6. JERICHO was a city surrounded by high walls; these WALLS point to "strongholds":
 - a. The stronghold of the imagination of the carnal mind: the "high things" that exalt itself against the knowledge of God; 2 Cor. 10:3-5
 - b. The stronghold of the world's religious, political, economic and social systems (Babylon) of which satan is king and god; Jer. 50-52; Revelation 17-18
 - c. The stronghold of the curse of the "law" of sin and death that keeps people in bondage; Galatians 3:13; Romans 8:1-2
 - d. The city had double walls: the inner wall was 12 feet wide, 30 feet high. The king of Jericho kept the city gates locked (in contrast to God's City the New Jerusalem, which has a wall, whose gates are open); Rev. 21:12-25
7. JOSHUA (Yeshua, Jesus) is moving forward with His army; He is determined to bring His people into the land, to destroy the wall; Ephesians 2:14, and to free those who are locked in bondage within the structure of wickedness:
 - a. Daniel was a prophet who saw the writing on the wall, it was a warning: God declared His intention to destroy the wall; Daniel 5:4-9, 25-31
 - b. Ezekiel was a prophet who dug through the wall; he had a revelation of the abominations hidden behind the wall; Ezekiel 8:7-18
 - c. Joel was a prophet who saw an army who would run upon and climb up the wall; Joel 2:1-11
 - d. David was a prophet who leaped over the wall; this reveals the jubilation of the Lord as the wall falls, unable to keep Him out; 2 Samuel 22:30; Psalm 18:29
 - e. Joshua was a prophet who shouted and the wall fell down flat, and was no more. This reveals the consummation, the complete destruction of every wall, any influence that has a stronghold on your spirit, mind and body; Josh. 6:1-20; Romans 8:38-39
8. Rahab and her people knew about the mighty acts of the God of the Israelites. She admitted to the spies that the Canaanites had been following what God had been doing through Israel in the 40 years between Egypt and Jericho; Joshua 2:8-11.
9. Rahab was warned that "Joshua" and his army would encompass the city and destroy it. Under perilous circumstances, in difficult times, Rahab took firm action in preparation for his "coming"
10. She made a confession of faith to God's "spies" (messengers); she was desperate for her own rescue and also requested that her loved ones would be saved; Josh. 2:12-14; Acts 16:31

- 11.** Rahab saved the lives of two Hebrew spies, covered them with “flax” (linen = righteousness) on the top of the house. Her home had become a “place of refuge”; Josh. 2:4-6
- a. She used her skills (now sanctified) for God’s service and purposes. What had been a house of prostitution had become a household of faith: a place of preparation for redemption.
 - b. Homes will increasingly become “gathering places” for meetings in the coming days of tribulation and persecution; Acts 2:46
- 12.** Rahab prepared for Joshua’s arrival; she was not “passive” in her preparation of his coming. We are not to simply await these events, we can “hasten their arrival”; 2 Pet. 3:11-12:
- a. By repenting of apostasy, departing from the “harlot system”: the Ecumenical Movement (which unites all religions), with its false doctrine and non-biblical practices; Revelation 17-18
 - b. By keeping our garment free from any spot, blemish or wrinkle; Eph. 5:27; Rev. 16:15
 - c. By obedience to the Great Commission, through evangelism and discipleship, bringing the Gospel message to every ethnic nation, tribe and tongue; Matt. 28:18-20
 - d. By acquiring a full measure of “oil” for our “lamps”; Matt. 25:4, 8-10, “gold” tried in the fire, “white raiment” and “eyesalve” for our eyes so that we can see; Rev. 3:18; 19:7
- 13.** Rahab was warned twice that her rescue would be in peril if she violated the oath she made with the Lord’s spies (messengers); Josh. 2:14, 20. She was given specific instructions:
- a. Rahab was told not to “betray” the brethren, or tell the Canaanites of the secret business of the Lord. She was now a part of the people of Israel; Matthew 24:10; 26:14-16
 - b. By faith, she hung the “scarlet cord” (of Redemption through His Blood) in the window of her house: the sign of salvation. This was seen by the approaching army; Josh. 2:21; Exod. 12:13
 - c. Rahab’s family must all “get inside the house”, Josh. 2:19, as seen in other biblical “rescues”:
 - Noah and his family entered the Ark of safety (a floating house), and God shut the door.
 - Lot and his family were in his house, barricaded by two angels, and were led to safety.
 - In the Exodus rescue, the family and their neighbors were inside the house; they shared “a lamb for a house”, with the blood of the lamb upon the door posts of the house; Ex. 12:3-7
- 14.** Like Rahab, we can have the assurance that regardless of our circumstances, we too shall be saved. The outcome of the battle has already been determined; Joshua 2:4
- 15.** While Rahab’s family awaited their rescue, important events were transpiring elsewhere:
- a. The Israelites were preparing to “cross the Jordan” (to enter the land of promise); Josh. 4:4-7
 - b. At Gilgal, there was another “circumcision” (further dealings of the Cross), in which the reproach of the people was rolled away; Joshua 5:2-9
 - c. The Israelites crossed the Jordan onto dry land (a type of the Resurrection); Josh. 4:19-23. Before the rescue of Rahab and her family (prior to the rapture of the saints), a “resurrection event” takes place: the “dead in Christ” shall rise first; 1 Thessalonians 4:15-17
 - d. There was no more “manna”; the people ate the fruit of the land of Canaan; Josh. 5:11-12
 - e. There was an appearance of the “Captain of the host of the Lord”; Josh. 5:13-15
- 16.** The people of the land still did not repent even when the Israelites encompassed Jericho and the walls of Jericho fell supernaturally; they continued in their perversion and paganism in spite of their acknowledgment of the One true God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. God gives an extended period of time for people to hear the truth and to repent; Gen. 6:3, 5-7; 2 Pet. 2:4-9
- 17.** Everything in Jericho was destroyed by the sword and it was burnt with fire; Josh. 6:21, 24.
- 18.** THE BIBLICAL PATTERN HOLDS TRUE: God’s people enter a period of tribulation, are powerless to defend themselves, but are miraculously rescued. Rahab and her family were moved to a place of safety and rescued prior to the wrath: destruction and fire; 1 Thess. 1:10; 5:9
- Terri Hill

