

Scriptures for Today: Joshua 2:1-24 – Two spies sent to view the land and Jericho

Today's Message: Faith Builders – *Will Jesus Christ find so great a faith in His church today?*

INTRODUCTION

Last week, we paused with Joshua as he reminded the 2 ½ tribes (*Reuben, Gad and half Manasseh*) about their commitment to Moses related to the land of *their* choice on the **WRONG** side of Jordan. We must **not** settle for less than God's best. There is **danger** and **risk** present in our lives when we try to live a "lukewarm" Christian life. Today, we will follow 2 spies as they are sent from Joshua to view the land on the other side of Jordan and **Jericho**. We are about to witness one of the greatest acts of _____ present in the holy Bible – and that by a Gentile harlot named **Rahab**! And, the evidence of her faith will be clearly manifested in her _____. Along the way, we will be encouraged to _____ God's promises right now in Church History. We must not leave today in the same condition as we entered. It is time to prove *our* faith by *our* works. It is time to bring God the glory He deserves!

LEARNING TOGETHER

1. The Text Joshua 2:1-24

✓ *Joshua sends two spies over Jordan to view the land and Jericho...*

- **Secret Encounter** – The spies found **providential** guidance and _____ with Rahab.

2:1-7 "... And they **went**, and **came into an harlot's house**, named **Rahab**."

- **Stirring Encouragement** – Rahab's _____ of God and His people brought **courage**.

2:8-11 "**I know... all the inhabitants of the land faint because of you.**"

- **Salvation Requested** – Rahab's _____ in God's judgment *constrained* her to be **saved**.

2:12-16 "**Now therefore, I pray you... And that ye will save alive my father...**"

- **Scarlet Promise** – Rahab's _____ in God and His promises were **proven** by her **works**.

2:17-21 "And she **bound** the **scarlet line** in the window."

- **Strong Faith** – The spies returned *fully persuaded* that God would ____ what He promised!

2:22-24 "And they said unto Joshua, **TRULY** the **LORD hath delivered...**"

2. The History Numbers 21

✓ *The Israelites had utterly destroyed two very important Amorite kings – Sihon and Og.*

- **Amorites** – The Amorites are described as a being of **great stature** and _____.
Genesis 10:15-16; Amos 2:9-10
- **Sihon | Og** – Og is said to have an iron bed that was over _____ feet long and 6 feet wide!
Deuteronomy 13:11-13; Joshua 12:4; 13:12
- **The Songs** – The victories over Sihon and Og would become _____ songs for Israel!
Judges 11:19-21; Psalm 135:11; 136:19; 137:3 (The enemy knows them!)

NOTE The victories over the two kings of the Amorites became something far more important to the children of Israel than just defeating an enemy. They became the **faith builders** that God would use to stir them up to trust Him in the future.

3. The Lessons Hebrews 11:31; James 2:25; Matthew 1:5

- ✓ *Rahab's faith in God to receive the spies in peace would save her from God's wrath to come.*

- **Rahab's Faith** – God calls out (by Paul) Rahab's **faith as an example** for us to follow.

Heb 11:31 *"By faith the harlot Rahab perished not with them that believed not"*

Truth: She was *fully persuaded* that the LORD's judgment was coming.

- By faith, she *believed* and _____ God more than she feared men.

- She was so convinced, she _____ them *swear by the LORD!*

Learning: **Our faith in the Word of Almighty God brings salvation & blessings.**

- ✓ *Rahab's works proved her faith as genuine when she received and guided the spies safely.*

- **Rahab's Works** – God calls out (by James) Rahab's **works as an example** for us to follow.

James 2:25 *"Likewise also was not Rahab the harlot justified by works..."*

Truth: Because she believed God, she did something heroic for His glory!

- By faith, she risked her life to _____ and help God's people.

- She saved her entire house by the _____ of the *scarlet thread*.

Learning: **Faith without works is dead. Genuine faith is full of good works!**

- ✓ *Rahab was adopted by God's people; she became the great, great grandma of king David!*

- **Rahab's Life** – God calls out (by Matthew) Rahab's place in **the lineage of the Messiah**.

Joshua 6:25 *"Joshua saved Rahab... she dwelleth in Israel even unto this day"*

Matthew 1:5 *"And Salmon begat Booz of Rachab; and Booz begat Obed of Ruth..."*

1 Corinth 1:28 *"...base things of the world... which are despised, hath God chosen..."*

Truth: Through this "harlot" of Jericho, we learn God's _____ has no bounds.

Learning: **Jesus Christ – friend of sinners – is not ashamed to call you His own!**