

ORDER OF SERVICE

January 30, 2022

- Worship in Fellowship
- Worship in Music
- Worship in Message
- Worship in Giving

Wayne Braudrick

Prepare Yourself For Conflict

Joshua 2:1-24

Prepare Yourself Series

Life Change: We embody loyalty, circumspection, and wisdom.

“America’s Epidemic of Mindless Behavior”

Joshua prepares for conflict by gathering intel.
He does so circumspectly.

1

He is behaving wisely.

He is loyal to God’s commission.

Rahab prepares for conflict by trusting God:
Wisely understanding His nature.

2-11

0

Rahab prepares for conflict by trusting God:
Circumspectly protecting God’s men.

2-11

Loyally breaking all ties to her former life.

The spies/Rahab prepare for conflict with a covenant.
Loyally establish the relationship on *hesed*.

12-21

Circumspectly choose a simple sign.

Wisely made sure they were not being used for evil.

The outcome:
Rahab triumphs.

22-24

The spies are emboldened.

Joshua gets the information he needs.

It is hazardous to be a Christian in an age like ours, in a culture that is increasingly alienated from God. But if we have believed, even if we are surrounded and threatened by the kingdom of our previous king, the evil one, may our faith be like Rahab’s, observable by courage and works. Rahab blazes abroad as a tremendous example for all of us.

– Francis Schaeffer, *Joshua and the Flow of Biblical History*

To grow in:

Loyalty – look beyond yourself.

1 Jn 3:16

Circumspection – guard the tongue.

Col 4:6

Wisdom – study the nature of God.

Josh 2:9

PREPARE YOURSELF

a study of Joshua

PLEASE SILENCE YOUR PHONE

Daniel Henninger



courtesy FoxNews



courtesy DieWelt

So many individuals [have] broken free of moorings that once stopped them from an uncontrollable drift into senseless violence and mindless behavior...Today, much violent or even nonviolent personal behavior has become mindless, untethered and unhinged.



**– Daniel Henninger,
“America’s Epidemic of Mindless Behavior.”**

**What do we
do now?**



courtesy sputnik

In a frightening, tense moment, Joshua leads us to circumspection, wisdom, and loyalty.

- **Circumspection makes for careful living.**
- **Wisdom makes for skillful living.**
- **Loyalty makes for peaceful living.**

Joshua 2

¹ Joshua son of Nun secretly sent two men as spies from the Acacia Grove, saying, “Go and scout the land, especially Jericho.” So they left, and they came to the house of a prostitute named Rahab, and stayed there. ^{CSB}

Ex

Lev

Nu

De

Joshua

Ju

Ru

1 Sa

2 Sa

Joshua 2

¹ Joshua son of Nun secretly sent two men as spies from the Acacia Grove, saying, “Go and scout the land, especially Jericho.” So they left, and they came to the house of a prostitute named Rahab, and stayed there.

Hebrew: שָׁרָס heres = done in secret, circumspectly; done carefully & quietly so results seem magical; hundreds of years later, used for wizardry

Why is Josh so
circumspect?
Why all the
secrecy?



courtesy yahoo



**Israel camped at Shittim – place of the acacia trees
[which technically are now classified as vachellia]**

Acacia trees in Jordan courtesy globaltrees

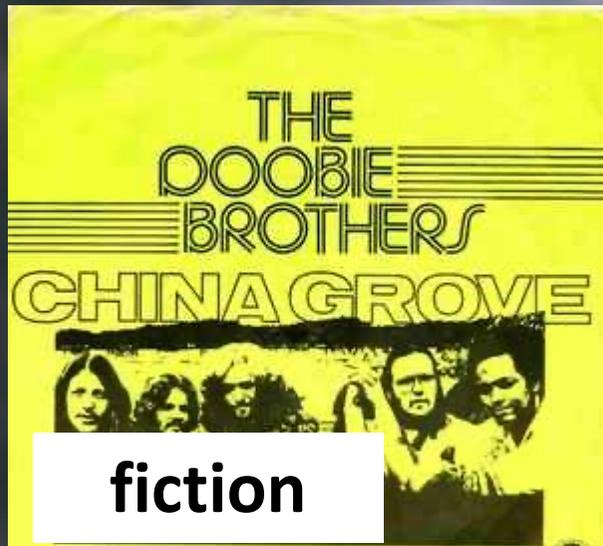


Israel camped at 'no longer place of the acaia trees'

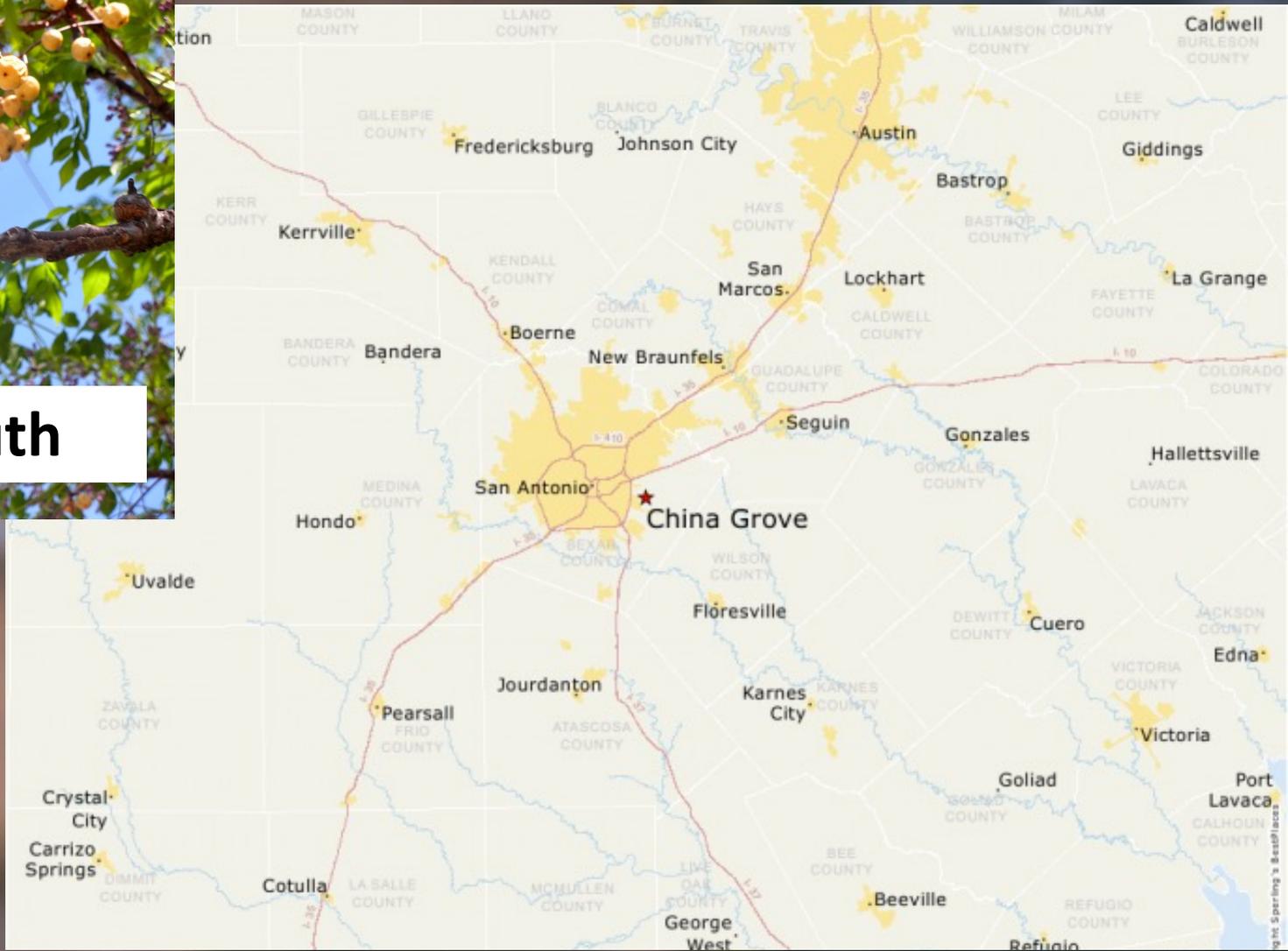
courtesy bloomberg



truth

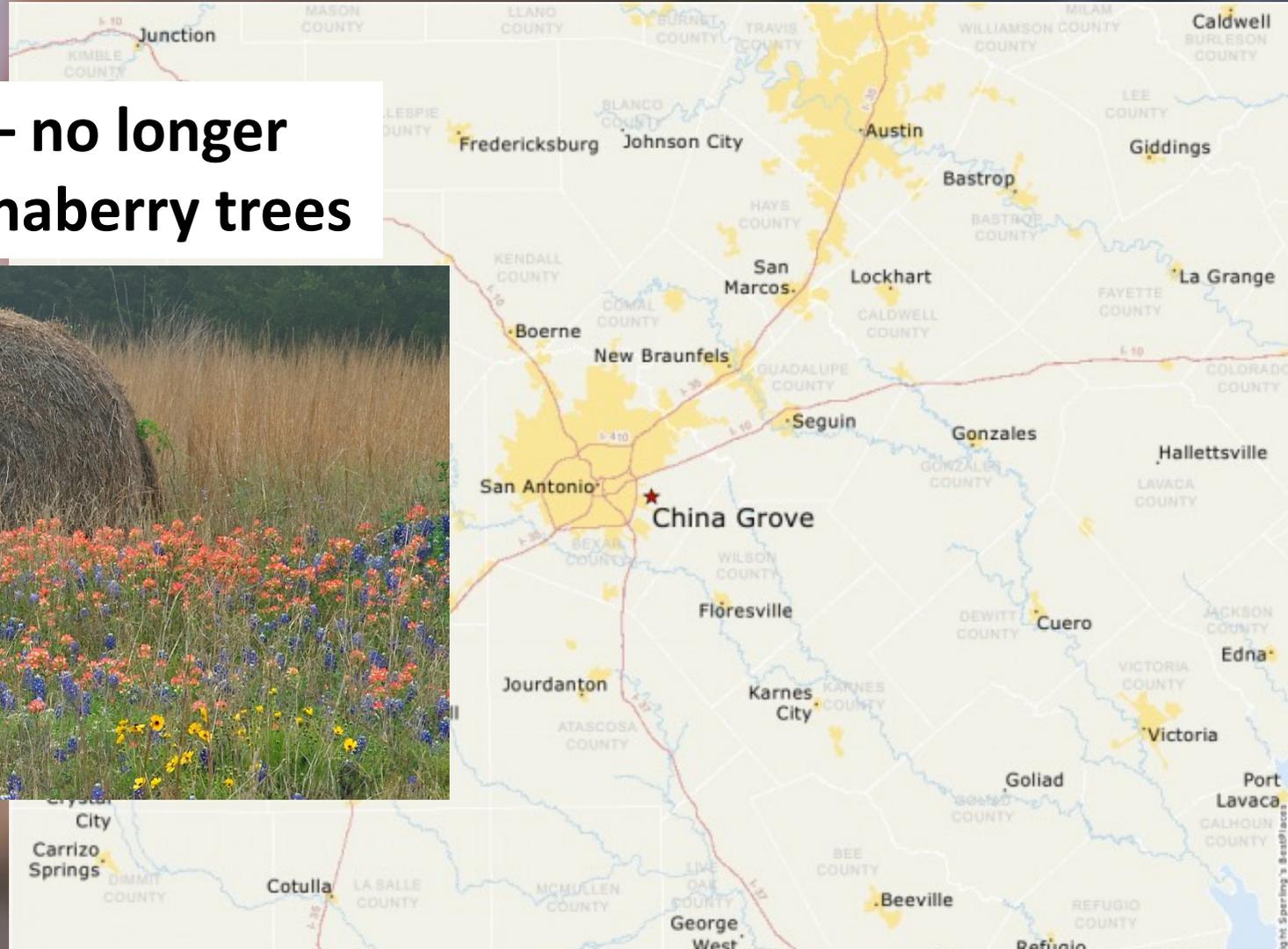


fiction



courtesy gardenset; WB; Rand

China Grove – no longer place of the chinaberry trees



courtesy asergeev; Rand

Israel had camped
at Kadesh-barnea
under Moses
and sent spies
from there



Israel camped at
Shittim under Joshua

Modern Israeli grape cluster, reminiscent of what the scouts brought back to Kadesh-barnea in Numbers 13.



**Kadesh-barnea, where
Israel refused to advance**



courtesy touchpoint Israel; Rouen news

Israel had camped
at Kadesh-barnea
under Moses
and sent spies
from there



Israel camped at
Shittim under Joshua

Joshua 2

¹ Joshua son of Nun secretly sent two men as spies from the Acacia Grove, saying, “Go and scout the land, especially Jericho.” So they left, and they came to the house of a prostitute named Rahab, and stayed there. ^{CSB}



● Jericho
● Israeli camp





courtesy David Baptiste

Joshua 1

¹ After the death of Moses the LORD's servant, the LORD spoke to Joshua son of Nun, Moses's assistant:

² "Moses my servant is dead. Now you and all the people prepare to cross over the Jordan to the land I am giving the Israelites." CSB

Joshua 1

¹ After the death of Moses the LORD's servant, the LORD spoke to Joshua son of Nun, Moses's assistant:

² "Moses my servant is dead. Now you and all the people prepare to cross over the Jordan to the land I am giving the Israelites." CSB

Joshua loyally obeys. He knows that information is important for preparation and preparation is important for loyalty.

Proverbs 5:18-19 – Take pleasure in the wife of your youth...be lost in her love forever.

Malachi 2:15 – Watch yourselves carefully, so that no one acts treacherously against the wife of his youth.

Hebrew 13:4 – Marriage is to be honored by all and the marriage bed kept undefiled ^{CSB}

Joshua 1

¹ After the death of Moses the LORD's servant, the LORD spoke to Joshua son of Nun, Moses's assistant:

² "Moses my servant is dead. Now you and all the people prepare to cross over the Jordan to the land I am giving the Israelites." CSB

Joshua loyally obeys. He knows that information is important for preparation and preparation is important for loyalty.

Joshua 1

¹ After the death of Moses the LORD's servant, the LORD spoke to Joshua son of Nun, Moses's assistant: ² "Moses my servant is dead. Now you and all the people prepare to cross over the Jordan to the land I am giving the Israelites." CSB

Joshua loyally obeys. He knows that information is important for preparation and preparation is important for loyalty.



**GREAT MARRIAGES
DON'T JUST HAPPEN**
weekend to
remember

Joshua 2

² The king of Jericho was told, “Look, some of the Israelite men have come here tonight to investigate the land.” ³ Then the king of Jericho sent word to Rahab and said, “Bring out the men who came to you and entered your house, for they came to investigate the entire land.” ⁴ But the woman had taken the two men and hidden them. So she said, “Yes, the men did come to me, but I didn’t know where they were from.

Joshua 2

⁵ At nightfall, when the city gate was about to close, the men went out, and I don't know where they were going. Chase after them quickly, and you can catch up with them!" ⁶ But she had taken them up to the roof and hidden them among the stalks of flax that she had arranged on the roof. ⁷ The men pursued them along the road to the fords of the Jordan, and as soon as they left to pursue them, the city gate was shut. ⁸ Before the men fell asleep, she went up on the roof

Joshua 2

⁹ and said to them, “I know that the LORD has given you this land and that the terror of you has fallen on us, and everyone who lives in the land is panicking because of you. ¹⁰ For we have heard how the LORD dried up the water of the Red Sea before you when you came out of Egypt, and what you did to Sihon and Og, the two Amorite kings you completely destroyed across the Jordan. ¹¹ When we heard this, we lost heart, and everyone’s courage failed because of you, for the LORD your God is God in heaven above and on earth below. ^{CSB}

Joshua 2

**⁹ and said to them,
“I know that the LORD
has given you this
land and that the
terror of you has
fallen on us”** CSB

What Rahab knows

YHWH – covenant God

God of heaven – supreme authority

God of earth – singular; no pagan god was of both

Your God – in relationship with humans

Given this land – sovereignty

Red Sea miracle – all-powerful

A woman with long dark hair, wearing a vibrant red dress and a black shawl with gold floral patterns, stands in profile against a rough, textured stone wall. She holds a lit candle in her right hand, and her left hand is raised to her hair. The scene is dimly lit, with a blueish tint, and the background is a soft, out-of-focus gradient.

РАНАВ

**Street sign in
classical Ephesus
“This way to the
brothel.”**



courtesy Susan Fletcher

Colossians 1

28 God has chosen what is insignificant and despised in the world—what is viewed as nothing—to bring to nothing what is viewed as something, 29 so that no one may boast in his presence. ^{CSB}

What Rahab knows

YHWH – covenant God

God of heaven – supreme authority

God of earth – singular; no pagan god was of both

Your God – in relationship with humans

Given this land – sovereignty

Red Sea miracle – all-powerful

**Jericho's "worthies"
focused on state or self**



**Rahab
focused on YHWH**



Joshua 2

³ Then the king of Jericho sent word to Rahab and said, “Bring out the men who came to you and entered your house, for they came to investigate the entire land.” ⁴ But the woman had taken the two men and hidden them. So she said, “Yes, the men did come to me, but I didn’t know where they were from. ⁵ At nightfall, when the city gate was about to close, the men went out, and I don’t know where they were going. Chase after them quickly, and you can catch up with them!” ⁶ But she had taken them up to the roof and hidden them among the stalks of flax that she had arranged on the roof.



Flax drying



Ready for weaving

Joshua 2

³ Then the king of Jericho sent word to Rahab and said, “Bring out the men who came to you and entered your house, for they came to investigate the entire land.” ⁴ But the woman had taken the two men and hidden them. So she said, “Yes, the men did come to me, but I didn’t know where they were from. ⁵ At nightfall, when the city gate was about to close, the men went out, and I don’t know where they were going. Chase after them quickly, and you can catch up with them!” ⁶ But she had taken them up to the roof and hidden them among the stalks of flax that she had arranged on the roof.

The ten Boom family of Haarlem, Netherlands ca. 1939



courtesy tenBoom Museum

**This is war, and
Nazis require us
to violate
scripture. Ergo,
lying is OK.**



**Lying lips are an
abomination to
the Lord. We
should tell truth.
God may cause
Nazis to assume
we are joking.**

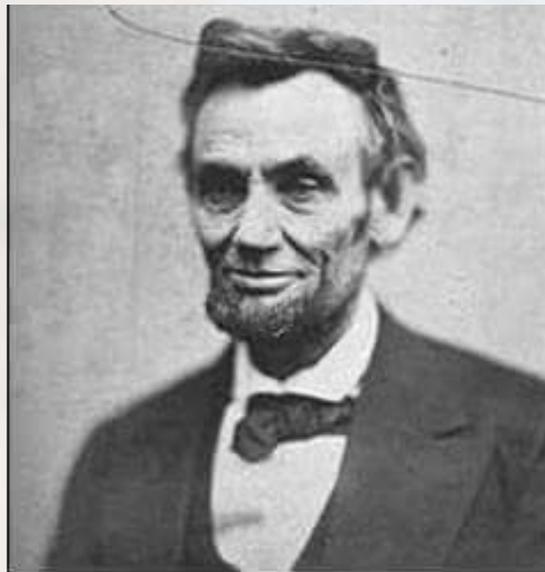
Joshua 2

⁹ and said to them, “I know that the LORD has given you this land and that the terror of you has fallen on us, and everyone who lives in the land is panicking because of you. ¹⁰ For we have heard how the LORD dried up the water of the Red Sea before you when you came out of Egypt, and what you did to Sihon and Og, the two Amorite kings you completely destroyed across the Jordan. ¹¹ When we heard this, we lost heart, and everyone’s courage failed because of you, for the LORD your God is God in heaven above and on earth below. ^{CSB}



THE RIGHT SIDE OF HISTORY

My greatest concern is to be on God's side, for God is always right.



Joshua 2

¹¹ When we heard this, we lost heart, and everyone's courage failed because of you, for the LORD your God is God in heaven above and on earth below. ^{CSB}

Hebrew: רוּחַ ruah = a play on words; literally “breath” and used for “bravery”

Hebrew: יָמַם we yimmas = something melting away [like the face of an evil Nazi in an Indiana Jones film]

Joshua 2

¹² Now please swear to me by the LORD that you will also show kindness to my father's family, because I showed kindness to you. Give me a sure sign ¹³ that you will spare the lives of my father, mother, brothers, sisters, and all who belong to them, and save us from death." ¹⁴ The men answered her, "We will give our lives for yours. If you don't report our mission, we will show kindness and faithfulness to you when the LORD gives us the land."

Joshua 2

¹⁵ Then she let them down by a rope through the window, since she lived in a house that was built into the wall of the city. ¹⁶ “Go to the hill country so that the men pursuing you won’t find you,” she said to them. “Hide there for three days until they return; afterward, go on your way.” ¹⁷ The men said to her, “We will be free from this oath you made us swear, ¹⁸ unless, when we enter the land, you tie this scarlet cord to the window through which you let us down. Bring your father, mother, brothers, and all your father’s family into your

Joshua 2

house. ¹⁹ If anyone goes out the doors of your house, his death will be his own fault, and we will be innocent. But if anyone with you in the house should be harmed, his death will be our fault. ²⁰ And if you report our mission, we are free from the oath you made us swear.” ²¹ “Let it be as you say,” she replied, and she sent them away. After they had gone, she tied the scarlet cord to the window. ^{CSB}

Joshua 2

¹² Now please swear to me by the LORD that you will also show kindness to my father's family, because I showed kindness to you... ¹⁴ The men answered her, "We will give our lives for yours. If you don't report our mission, we will show kindness and faithfulness to you when the LORD gives us the land."



Hebrew: חֶסֶד hesed = merciful, fiercely-loyal commitment that stays engaged

Joshua 2

12 Now please swear to me by the LORD that you will also show kindness to my father's family, because I showed kindness to you. Give me a sure sign ¹³ that you will spare the lives of my father, mother, brothers, sisters, and all who belong to them, and save us from death." ¹⁴ The men answered her, "We will give our lives for yours. If you don't report our mission, we will show kindness and faithfulness to you when the LORD gives us the land."



new & improved contract



courtesy scientificwriting

Joshua 2

¹² Now please swear to me by the LORD that you will also show kindness to my father's family, because I showed kindness to you... ¹⁴ The men answered her, "We will give our lives for yours. If you don't report our mission, we will show kindness and faithfulness to you when the LORD gives us the land."



Hebrew: חֶסֶד hesed = merciful, fiercely-loyal commitment that stays engaged

Joshua 2

17 The men said to her, “We will be free from this oath you made us swear, **18** unless, when we enter the land, you tie this scarlet cord to the window through which you let us down. Bring your father, mother, brothers, and all your father’s family into your house... **21** “Let it be as you say,” she replied, and she sent them away. After they had gone, she tied the scarlet cord to the window. **CSB**



Joshua 2

It's Passover!

17 She said to her, "We will be free from you unless, when we enter the city, you tie a scarlet cord to the window through which we go down. Bring your father, mother, brothers and your father's family into your house..."²¹ "Let it be as you say," she replied, and she hid them.²² After they had gone, she tied the scarlet cord to the window.^{CSB}

It's a stairway to heaven...and she's buying it!

It's Jesus' blood!

It's the cross!





If we expand the meaning of symbols, we slip into religious superstition. Religious superstition is faith in the token, not the God behind the symbol.



Joshua 2

17 The men said to her, “We will be free from this oath you made us swear, **18** unless, when we enter the land, you tie this scarlet cord to the window through which you let us down. Bring your father, mother, brothers, and all your father’s family into your house... **21** “Let it be as you say,” she replied, and she sent them away. After they had gone, she tied the scarlet cord to the window. **CSB**



Joshua 2

17 The men said to her, “We will be free from this oath you made us swear, **18** unless, when we enter the land, you tie this scarlet cord to the window through which you let us down. Bring your father, mother, brothers, and all your father’s family into your house. **19** If anyone goes out the doors of your house, his death will be his own fault, and we will be innocent. But if anyone with you in the house should be harmed, his death will be our fault. **20** And if you report our mission, we are free from the oath you made us swear.”

Joshua 2

¹² Now please swear to me by the LORD that you will also show kindness to my father's family, because I showed kindness to you. Give me a sure sign ¹³ that you will spare the lives of my father, mother, brothers, sisters, and all who belong to them, and save us from death."



Joshua 2

¹⁴ The men answered her, “We will give our lives for yours. If you don’t report our mission, we will show kindness and faithfulness to you when the LORD gives us the land.” ¹⁵ Then she let them down by a rope through the window, since she lived in a house that was built into the wall of the city.

**Focus on the flag and then
go through your normal
swing**



**Think about every move you
will make and then go
through your normal swing**



Joshua 2

¹⁴ The men answered her, “We will give our lives for yours. If you don’t report our mission, we will show kindness and faithfulness to you when the LORD gives us the land.” ¹⁵ Then she let them down by a rope through the window, since she lived in a house that was built into the wall of the city.

Joshua 2

22 So the two men went into the hill country and stayed there three days until the pursuers had returned. They searched all along the way, but did not find them.

23 Then the men returned, came down from the hill country, and crossed the Jordan. They went to Joshua son of Nun and reported everything that had happened to them. **24** They told Joshua, “The LORD has handed over the entire land to us. Everyone who lives in the land is also panicking because of us.” CSB

Rahab triumphs

- A covenant with God's people
- Protection during the conquest
- A role in the Messiah's lineage (through His step-father, Joseph)
- A place in the Hebrew Hall of Fame

Hebrews 11

³⁰ By faith the walls of Jericho fell down after being marched around by the Israelites for seven days. ³¹ By faith Rahab the prostitute welcomed the spies in peace and didn't perish with those who disobeyed. ^{CSB}



**The German
dig at Jericho**

courtesy Heidelberg University

German excavations from 1907-1909 on the northern section of the site uncovered a portion of the lower city wall that did not fall as it did everywhere else. The still-standing section rose as high as 8 feet, with houses built against it still intact. A second wall at the crest of the embankment revealed that these particular houses were situated between the upper and lower city walls and were thus ‘in the city wall.’ Since the lower wall also formed the back wall of the houses, an opening in the wall would have provided a convenient escape route. – “Rahab’s House” *Archeological Study Bible*

Joshua 2

22 So the two men went into the hill country and stayed there three days until the pursuers had returned. They searched all along the way, but did not find them.

23 Then the men returned, came down from the hill country, and crossed the Jordan. They went to Joshua son of Nun and reported everything that had happened to them. **24** They told Joshua, “The LORD has handed over the entire land to us. Everyone who lives in the land is also panicking because of us.” CSB



courtesy WB

Joshua's scouts return to Shittim





courtesy boldandbeautifulkids

**What God does just
makes you stronger.
Stand a little taller.
He keeps His word, and
I'm never alone.**



Joshua 2

22 So the two men went into the hill country and stayed there three days until the pursuers had returned. They searched all along the way, but did not find them.

23 Then the men returned, came down from the hill country, and crossed the Jordan. They went to Joshua son of Nun and reported everything that had happened to them. **24** They told Joshua, “The LORD has handed over the entire land to us. Everyone who lives in the land is also panicking because of us.” CSB



courtesy wordzz

Mommy, don't cry. Our Sunday school teacher taught us Romans 8, and it says that if God is for us

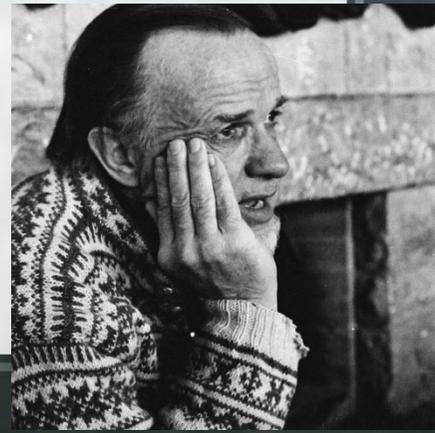


nothing can stand against us. It will all be fine, mommy.

In a frightening, tense moment, Joshua leads us to circumspection, wisdom, and loyalty.

- **Circumspection makes for careful living.**
- **Wisdom makes for skillful living.**
- **Loyalty makes for peaceful living.**

It is hazardous to be a Christian in an age like ours, in a culture that is increasingly alienated from God. But if we have believed, even if we are surrounded and threatened by the kingdom of our previous king, the evil one, may our faith be like Rahab's, observable by courage and works. Rahab blazes abroad as a tremendous example for all of us. – Francis Schaeffer, *Joshua and the Flow of Biblical History*



1 John 3

**16 This is how we have come to know love:
He laid down his life for us.
We should also lay down our lives
for our brothers and sisters. ^{CSB}**

To grow in loyalty, look up beyond yourself.



**To grow in circumspection,
stop thinking you need to
say all you know.**

**Mums are beautiful. (Get
it? Mum...)**

Shotgun blast
Andre Balogh
2012



Colossians 4

**⁶ Let your speech
always be gracious,
seasoned with salt, so
that you may know
how you should answer
each person. ^{CSB}**

“I [Rahab] know.” – Joshua 2:9

YHWH – covenant God

God of heaven – supreme authority

God of earth – singular; no pagan god was of both

Your God – in relationship with humans

Given this land – sovereignty

Red Sea miracle – all-powerful

To grow in wisdom, study the nature of God.



PREPARE YOURSELF

a study of Joshua