

"Jesus Loves Losers?!?" - Joshua 2:1-24

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."

Spiritual Lessons we can learn from this chapter:

Lessons from JOSHUA:

"Now Joshua the son of Nun sent out two men from Acacia Grove to **spy secretly**, saying, "Go, view the land, especially Jericho."

- **Faithfulness** - Joshua was a very **faithful leader**.

○ 1 Cor 4:2 NLT - ".a person who is put in charge as a manager must be faithful."

- **Wisdom** -Joshua used **practical wisdom** in sending scouts in secret.
 - **Prov 2:6 NLT** -"For the Lord grants wisdom! From His mouth come knowledge and understanding."

Lessons from RAHAB:

"So they went, and **came to the house** of a harlot named Rahab, and lodged there. 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." 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." 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."

- **Courage** -Rahab displayed true **personal courage**, though she lied.
 - **Eph 2:8 NLT** -"God saved you by his grace when you believed. And you can't take credit for this; it is a gift from God."

"Now before they lay down, she came up to them on the roof, 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. 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. 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."

- **BIBLICAL FAITH** -Rahab showed a genuine **saving faith** in the Lord.
 - **Jas 2:24-26 NLT** -"So you see, we are **shown to be right with God by what we do**, not by faith alone. Rahab the prostitute is another example. She was **shown to be right with God by her actions** when she hid those messengers and sent them safely away by a different road. Just as the body is dead without breath, so also faith is dead without good works."
 - **Heb 11:31 NLT** -"It was **by faith** that Rahab the prostitute was not destroyed with the people in her city who refused to obey God. For she had given a friendly welcome to the spies."

Lessons from GOD:

- **SOVEREIGNTY** -God was already **working ahead of them!**
 - **Josh 1:3-5,9 NLT** -"I promise you what I promised Moses: 'Wherever you set foot, you will be on **land I have given you**- from the Negev wilderness in the south to the Lebanon mountains in the north, from the Euphrates River in the east to the Mediterranean Sea in the west, including all the land of the Hittites.' No one will be able to stand against you as long as you live. For **I will be with you as I was with Moses**. I will not fail you or abandon you... be strong and courageous! **Do not be afraid or discouraged**. For **the Lord your God is with you** wherever you go."
 - **Deut 31:1-6 NLT** - "When Moses had finished giving these instructions to all the people of Israel, he said, "I am now 120 years old, and I am no longer able to lead you. The Lord has told me, 'You will not cross the Jordan

River.' But the **LORD your God** Himself will cross over ahead of you. **He** will destroy the nations living there, and **you** will take possession of their land. **Joshua will lead you** across the river, just as the Lord promised. "The **LORD** will destroy the nations living in the land, just as he destroyed Sihon and Og, the kings of the Amorites. The **LORD** will hand over to you the people who live there, and you must deal with them as I have commanded you. So be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid and do not panic before them. For the **LORD your God** will personally go ahead of you. He will neither fail you nor abandon you."

- **Ps.23:3-4NLT** - "**He guides me along right paths, bringing honor to his name. Even when I walk through the darkest valley.**

"So the men said to her: "We will be blameless of this oath of yours which you have made us swear, 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. 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. And if you tell this business of ours, then we will be free from your oath which you made us swear." 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."

• **SCARLET CHORD**-*Symbol of Christ's bloodsacrifice!*

- "שָׂרָד" or "**shânîy**"; "תֹּוּלָא" or "**tôwlâ**" - "an insect, or it's larvae/maggot/worm - their blood was used to dye cloth to a deep red color."
 - **Isa 1:18 NKJV** - "Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow."

Lessons for YOU:

• **FREE WILL** -*Each of us must personally choose regarding Christ!*

- **Josh 24:15** - ".choose this day who you will serve."
- **Rom 10:9** - "If you openly declare that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved."

• **PERSONAL DESTINY** -*Rahab was called to a great destiny in Christ!*

- **Matt 1:5-6** - "Salmon was the father of Boaz (whose mother was **Rahab**). Boaz was the father of Obed (whose mother was Ruth). Obed was the father of Jesse. Jesse was the father of **King David**."
- **Jer 33:3 NLT** - "Ask Me and I will tell you remarkable secrets you do not know about things to come."
- **Eph 3:20 NLT** - "Now all glory to God, who is able, through His mighty power at work within us, to accomplish infinitely more than we might ask or think."