

Promise Land
God's Story over Our Story
February 9, 2020

Joshua 21:43-45 So the Lord gave Israel **all the land** he had sworn to give their ancestors, and they took possession of it and settled there. The Lord gave them **rest on every side**, just as he had sworn to their **ancestors**. **Not one of their enemies withstood them**; the Lord gave **all their enemies into their hands**. **Not one** of all the Lord's good **promises to Israel failed**; every one was **fulfilled**.

Psalms 139:16 You saw me before I was born. Every day of my life was recorded in your book. Every moment was laid out before a single day had passed.

Hebrews 12:2 ...looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of *our* faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God...

Joshua 2:1 Then Joshua son of Nun secretly sent two spies from Shittim. "Go, look over the land," he said, "especially Jericho." So they went and entered the house of a prostitute named Rahab and stayed there.

God's Story...

- ✓ God searches for you to be in His story.

John 15:16 You didn't choose me. I chose you. I appointed you to go and produce lasting fruit, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask for, using

my name.

Revelation 3:20 Look! I stand at the door and knock. If you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in, and we will share a meal together as friends.

- ✓ God always makes a way for us to be in His story.

Joshua 2:17-21 Now the men had said to her, "This **oath** you made us swear will not be binding on us **unless**, when we enter the land, you have tied this **scarlet cord** in the window through which you let us down... But if you **tell what we are doing**, we will be released from the oath you made us swear." "Agreed," she replied. "**Let it be as you say**." So she sent them away, and they departed. And she tied the scarlet cord in the window.

Romans 8:28 And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them.

- ✓ God's story always has a redemptive ending.

Key Thought: Giving your heart to Jesus is not the end of your spiritual journey it is the beginning.

Matthew 1:3, 5-6 Judah the father of Perez and Zerah, whose mother was **Tamar**... Salmon the father of Boaz, whose mother was **Rahab**, Boaz

the father of Obed, whose mother was **Ruth**...David was the father of Solomon, whose mother had been **Uriah's wife**...

Lessons from four women in Jesus's lineage...

- **Through Tamar:** God will forgive the darkest sin.
- **Through Rahab:** God will use you regardless of your past.
- **Through Ruth:** God will not leave anyone out.
- **Through Bethsheba:** God can heal any situation.

Let me encourage you from Rahab's Story...

1. God is not limited by our past, in fact He can use it.

Isaiah 43:25 I—yes, I alone—will blot out your sins for my own sake and will never think of them again.

Luke 9:23-24 Then he said to them all: "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me. For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will save it."

Key Thought: Give your life to God, because he can do way more than you can.

2. Obedience to God, needs to be stronger than the approval of people.

Galatians 1:10 Am I now trying to win the approval of human beings, or of God? Or am I trying to please people? If I were still trying to please people, I would not be a servant of Christ.

Key Thought: If you are not ready to be criticized for your obedience to God, you are not ready to be used by God.

Proverbs 29:25 Fear of man will prove to be a snare, but whoever trusts in the Lord is kept safe.

3. Trust that God always keeps His word, and He always has a plan.

Joshua 2:21 ...she replied. "Let it be as you say." So she sent them away, and they departed. And she tied the scarlet cord in the window.

Isaiah 64:4 Since ancient times no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who acts on behalf of those who **wait** for him.

Psalms 37:7 Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for him...

Walk Away: When you are feeling disappointed with your life...let God write your story.