

## Joshua 2:1-24 The Faith of a Shady Lady Sunday, 1/23/22 Pastor Stuart Fraser

I. Introduction: The narrative of Rahab is a story of faith and demonstrates how the Lord redeems people from their life of sin and invites them into His covenant family.

- II. The Faith of a Shady Lady (Josh 2:1-24).
  - A. Rahab Protected the Spies (vv. 1-7).
    - 1. Joshua sent two spies over the Jordan to scout out the land, but when they were discovered in Jericho, Rahab hid them on the roof of her house.
  - B. Rahab Declared Her Beliefs (vv. 8-14).
    - 1. Rahab made an extraordinary declaration of faith regarding God, confessing more about Yahweh than even some Jews dared to declare about Him.
  - C. Rahab Pledged Her Loyalty (vv. 15-21).
    - 1. The spies instructed Rahab to hang a scarlet cord in the window as a covenant sign so that the Jews would not attack her or her family during their siege.
  - D. Rahab Encouraged the Jews (vv. 22-24).
    - 1. The spies returned to Joshua and reported what happened and how the Canaanites were terrified of the Israelite army, which strengthened Joshua's faith.
- III. Conclusion: God encouraged Joshua with the story of Rahab to demonstrate that He had given Israel the land and that He would help them to defeat all of their enemies.

## **Questions About: The Faith of a Shady Lady**

- 1. Do you live by faith and not fear? How are we to understand the faith of Rahab? What do we make of her lying to protect the spies? Is she a liar or a hero? How do you view her?
- 2. What did Joshua instruct the spies to do? (**Josh 2:1-2**) Why did the Jewish spies go to Rahab's house? (**v. 1**) How did the king of Jericho find out they were there?
- 3. What did Rahab tell the king about the Jewish spies? (Josh 2:3-6) Was she justified in lying to the king's soldiers? Did she know about God's laws? (Ex 20:16)
- 4. What does the Bible say about Rahab's actions? (**Heb 11:30-31; James 2:24-26**) How were her actions an indication of faith? Why does the author of Joshua not focus on her lie?
- 5. What confession did Rahab make about Yahweh? (Josh 2:8-14) What did she indicate about the morale of the people in Jericho? (v. 9) Why were they so fearful? (v. 10)
- 6. What did Rahab want the Jewish spies to do for her? (**Josh 8:12-14**) What did they require of her if they were to spare her family? (**v. 14**) How did this demonstrate her faith in God?
- 7. What was the sign of the covenant that they made with Rahab? (Josh 2:15-21) How was this similar to the Passover? (Ex 12:1-13) Where did she tell the spies to hide? (v. 16)
- 8. What did the Jewish spies report to Joshua? (Josh 2:22-24) How did their report encourage Joshua? (v. 24) How does it encourage you? How did it demonstrate God's grace?

## <u>Prayer</u>

- 1. Ask God to help you better understand how we are to love those who are sinners.
- 2. Pray that God might reveal to you how you can demonstrate His grace to lost people.