

Joshua chapter 2 is recorded to demonstrate God's saving power for the gentiles. Even in a condemned city like Jericho, there is a remnant that God has called to be part of his family. God sovereignly calls Rahab, and this story exists to remind us that God is working the salvation of his people, even those who have no redeeming qualities. Jeremy worked through the text in 5 main sections.

### **1. A Covert Mission**

Joshua sends two spies to scout out the land especially Jericho. Since Jericho was a heavily fortified city, it represented the strength of the land. If Israel was going to take the land, they would have to go through the strongest city at the height of its preparedness. Not knowing the fullness of God's plan, Joshua needed information about the city in order to formulate a plan of attack. In handing Jericho to the Israelites, God would demonstrate his power over the peoples occupying the land.

### **2. An Unlikely Ally**

The two spies go to Jericho and make their way to the house of a woman called Rahab (who happens to be in an unscrupulous line of work). It is most likely that they stayed at her house because it was a sort of tavern or inn. This was the kind of place where you could lay low and find information. Rahab puts her own life on the line for these two spies as she lies to the king's officials about their whereabouts.

### **3. A Rightly Placed Fear**

Verses 8-14 are the focal point of the whole chapter. By her statements and actions, Rahab shows that she fears the LORD and not the king of Jericho. Rahab demonstrates the pattern of saving faith. Saving faith begins with hearing objective facts, believing those facts are true, and then acting on those facts.

### **4. A Sworn Oath**

In a very severe moment, Rahab and the spies take an oath before the LORD. Rahab promises to keep the spies' secret and the spies promise to keep anyone in Rahab's house safe when Israel returns to take the land. Rahab helps the spies escape by letting them down the wall from her window. She then ties a scarlet cord in the window immediately to ensure the Israelites will know what house to leave alone. This moment is Rahab's "Passover" as she is being adopted into God's people.

### **5. A Promise Fulfilled**

The men returned to Joshua and told him all that happened. They give a good report, much like Caleb and Joshua did all those years earlier. These anonymous spies affirm what the Lord has already told them. God promised to drive the people out from before them. God had promised Joshua that no man would be able to stand before him and that is exactly what has happened. "Truly the LORD has given all the land into our hands. And also, all the inhabitants of the land melt away because of us."

Jeremy closed with two application points

- **God calls those not worthy of being called**
- **Live in allegiance to the true King**

### **Discussion Questions**

1. What stood out to you from the sermon or biblical text?
2. How does this story comfort us as believers?
3. What can we learn from Rahab's example? How can we demonstrate bold faith in the face of opposition?
4. Have you experienced a time when God was gracious in not revealing too much of how a situation would unfold?