

October 13, 2013

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.² The king of Jericho was told, "Look, some of the Israelites have come here tonight to spy out the land." ³ So the king of Jericho sent this message to Rahab: "Bring out the men who came to you and entered your house, because they have come to spy out the whole land."



⁴ But the woman had taken the two men and hidden them. She said, "Yes, the men came to me, but I did not know where they had come from. ⁵ At dusk, when it was time to close the city gate, they left. I don't know which way they went. Go after them quickly. You may catch up with them." ⁶ (But she had taken them up to the roof and hidden them under the stalks of flax she had laid out on the roof.)

So the men set out in pursuit of the spies on the road that leads to the fords of the Jordan, and as soon as the pursuers had gone out, the gate was shut.⁸ Before the spies lay down for the night, she went up on the roof 9 and said to them, "I know that the LORD has given you this land and that a great fear of you has fallen on us, so that all who live in this country are melting in fear because of you.



¹⁰ 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 Sihon and Og, the two kings of the Amorites east of the Jordan, whom you completely destroyed. ¹¹ When we heard of it, our hearts melted in fear and everyone's courage failed because of you, for the LORD your God is God in heaven above and on the earth below.



- 12 "Now then, please swear to me by the LORD that you will show kindness to my family, because I have shown kindness to you. Give me a sure sign ¹³ that you will spare the lives of my father and mother, my brothers and sisters, and all who belong to them—and that you will save us from death."
- 14 "Our lives for your lives!" the men assured her. "If you don't tell what we are doing, we will treat you kindly and faithfully when the LORD gives us the land."



¹⁵ So she let them down by a rope through the window, for the house she lived in was part of the city wall. ¹⁶ She said to them, "Go to the hills so the pursuers will not find you. Hide yourselves there three days until they return, and then go on your way." ¹⁷ Now the men had said to her, "This oath you made us swear will not be binding on us



¹⁸ unless, when we enter the land, you have tied this scarlet cord in the window through which you let us down, and unless you have brought your father and mother, your brothers and all your family into your house. ¹⁹ If any of them go outside your house into the street, their blood will be on their own heads; we will not be responsible. As for those who are in the house with you, their blood will be on our head if a hand is laid on them.



²⁰ But if you tell what we are doing, we will be released from the oath you made us swear." ²¹ "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. ²² When they left, they went into the hills and stayed there three days, until the pursuers had searched all along the road and returned without finding them.

²³ Then the two men started back. They went down out of the hills, forded the river and came to Joshua son of Nun and told him everything that had happened to them. ²⁴ They said to Joshua, "The LORD has surely given the whole land into our hands; all the people are melting in fear because of us."



- **♥** The Incident
 - ♥ Joshua Needed Intel
 - The Operatives Were Saved by Rahab
 - The Operatives Returned the Favor







- **♥** The Implications
 - ♥ God Will Use Our Faith and Obedience



Numbers 13:31 (NIV)

But the men who had gone up with him said, "We can't attack those people; they are stronger than we are."



Numbers 14:1-4 (NIV)

14 That night all the members of the community raised their voices and wept aloud. ² All the Israelites grumbled against Moses and Aaron, and the whole assembly said to them, "If only we had died in Egypt! Or in this wilderness! ³ Why is the LORD bringing us to this land only to let us fall by the sword? Our wives and children will be taken as plunder. Wouldn't it be better for us to go back to Egypt?" ⁴ And they said to each other, "We should choose a leader and go back to Egypt."



Hebrews 11:6 (NIV)

⁶ And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.



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 - **Told Works His Sovereign Plan in Our Lives**



Matthew 1:5 (NIV)

⁵ Salmon the father of Boaz, whose mother was Rahab,

Boaz the father of Obed, whose mother was Ruth,

Obed the father of Jesse,



Daniel 2:20-22 (NIV)

- ²⁰ and said:
- "Praise be to the name of God for ever and ever;

wisdom and power are his.

- ²¹ He changes times and seasons; he deposes kings and raises up others.
- He gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to the discerning.
- ²² He reveals deep and hidden things; he knows what lies in darkness, and light dwells with him.



Isaiah 46:9-10 (NIV)

⁹ Remember the former things, those of long ago;

I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like me.

¹⁰ I make known the end from the beginning,

from ancient times, what is still to come.

I say, 'My purpose will stand, and I will do all that I please.'



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- **♥** The Implications
 - God Will Use Our Faith and Obedience
 - ♥ God Works His Sovereign Plan in Our Lives
 - ♥ God Can Redeem Anyone or Anything





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