

Rahab

Joshua 1 – 2

by Don Falkos

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God said to Joshua, "Be strong and courageous. Lead the people of Israel into the Promised Land. No one will be able to defeat you because I am with you."

Joshua sent two spies into Canaan. They entered the city of Jericho and stayed in the home of a prostitute named Rahab. When the king of Jericho heard about it, he commanded Rahab, "Send out the two men who are with you. They are spies for the Israelites."

She replied, "There were two men here, but I didn't ask where they were from. They left the city just before the gate closed at dusk. I don't know which way they went, but if you hurry you may be able to catch them."

The king sent men to chase after the two spies. But Rahab had hidden them on the roof of her house, under some stalks of flax she had drying there. She said to them, "We have heard about all the Lord has done for you. The Lord is God in heaven above and on the earth below. Everyone here is afraid of you. When you capture this city, be kind to my family, since I have helped you."

Rahab's house was on the city wall. She lowered a rope from the window so the spies could escape. They told her, "On the day we take the city, gather your family here in this house. We promise you will not be harmed. But if anyone steps outside, we will not be responsible for their safety." They gave her a scarlet cord to tie in her window as a sign.

The spies climbed down the rope and hid in the hills until the king's men gave up the search. Then they crossed the Jordan and told Joshua everything they had seen and heard. "God is truly giving us this land. Everyone there is afraid of us."