

Rahab: Woman of Faith in Action

James 2:25-26

Introduction

1. No one is beyond His grace.

Abraham was a godly man; **she** was an ungodly woman

- He was the **hero of Israel**, she the “**shady lady of Jericho**”
- He was perhaps the most highly honored by others in OT times; harlots were among most dishonored in OT times
- He was a **Hebrew of Hebrews**; she a **Gentile of Gentiles**
- He was the **one promised the land** of Canaan by God, she was **one of the pagans living in that very land of Canaan**
- He received **direct audible revelation** from God; she only had **indirect second-hand information about God**
- He was called a **friend of God** (v. 23b; Isa. 41:8), she was **among people who were enemies of God**
- He’s a **major Bible figure**; she’s a **minor Bible figure**
- He’s the **father of the faith**; she was totally **outside the faith**
- He was a **great leader**; she was a **common citizen**.
- He was at **the top of the social-economic order**; she was at the **bottom of society**.

2. Opposites in so many ways.

- If you say “I could never have the faith of Abraham” ...
- Rahabs are saved, too. No one is beyond the grace of God.
- It’s not just super-saints like Abraham who the Lord condescends to call His friend.

3. Rahab Committed her life

- **The might of the LORD** (v. 10 “*we have heard*”; cf. Rom 10:17 “*faith comes by hearing...*”)
- **The majesty of the LORD** (v. 11) –
 - “*When we heard it, our hearts melted and no courage remained in any man any longer because of you; for the LORD your God, He is God in heaven above and on earth beneath.*”
- **The mercy of the LORD** (v. 12-13).

- She pleads with these representatives of this LORD to be merciful and spare her from judgment on sin as her only hope, she asks for *hesed*

4. Rahab Committed her life to the lord.

- Joshua 6:20-25
- Matthew 1:1-6
 - A once immoral Canaanite is in the lineage (Rahab)
 - A once idolatrous Moabite gal is next in the lineage (Ruth)
 - A once adulterous David (her grandson) and Bathsheba, former wife of Uriah the Hittite (another non-Israelite)
- Matthew 21:28-32
- 1 Corinthians 6:11
- Hebrews 11:8, 11-34
- Hebrews 12:1-3