

# Rahab

**Rahab was a prostitute and innkeeper who lived in a house built into the wall of the city of Jericho, [Joshua 2:1].**

**It was a natural place for the Israelite spies to stay, as they would be mistaken for Rahab's clients.**

Stories about the Israelites had been circulating in Jericho for some time, but now it was evident that they were about to invade.

Rahab, living on the wall of the city, felt especially vulnerable.

Yet while Rahab shared the general mood of fear with the rest of the population of Jericho, she alone turned to the Creator God for her salvation.

**Rahab's faith in God gave her the courage to hide the spies and to lie to the authorities, [Joshua 2:2-6].**

**Rahab knew her position was dangerous, she would be killed if she was caught harbouring the Israelites. Rahab took the risk because she sensed that the Israelites relied on a God worth trusting.**

**Maybe there was another way to save the lives of the Israelite spies without lies and deception, but under the pressure of the moment Rahab had to make a choice.**

Thankfully God does **not** demand that our judgement be perfect in all situations, He simply asks us to put our trust in Him and do the best we know.

Rahab did just that and was commended for her faith in the Creator God, [**Hebrews 11:31**]. She was rewarded by God by promising safety for her and her family, [**Joshua 2:8-21**].

Rahab recognised something that many Israelites did **not** in her day or Christians may not in our generation.

**The Creator God is an all-powerful God able to save us from any death threatening situation, as He did with Rahab.**

**God often works through people, like Rahab, whom we are inclined to reject. God remembers Rahab because of her faith, not her profession.**

If at times we feel like a failure, remember that Rahab rose above her situation through her trust in the all-powerful Creator God.

We all can do the same as Rahab did.

**Joshua 6:22-23, 25** [New King James] *“But Joshua had said to the two men who had spied out the country, ‘Go into the harlot’s house, and from there bring out the woman and all that she has, as you swore to her.’ And the young men who had been spies went in and brought out Rahab, her father, her mother, her brothers, and all that she had. So they brought out all her relatives and left them outside the camp of Israel.” ... “And Joshua spared Rahab the harlot, her father’s household, and all that she had. So she dwells in Israel to this day, because she hid the messengers whom Joshua sent to spy out Jericho.”*

Rahab and her family became naturalised Israelites.

**Rahab is almost certainly to be identified with Rahab the wife of Salmon and mother of Boaz, ancestor of David who is included in the genealogy of Jesus Christ, [Matthew 1:5].**

**James 2:24-26** [New King James] *“You see then that a man is justified by works, and not by faith only. Likewise, was not Rahab the harlot also justified by works when she received the messengers and sent them out another way? For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.”*

**Rahab is quoted by James as an example of a person who had faith and works, [James 2:25].**