

Chesswood Baptist Church

Where Everybody is Somebody

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MINISTRY OF THE WORD

AND SHE SAID UNTO THE MEN,

I KNOW THAT THE LORD HATH GIVEN YOU THE LAND

PASTOR HOWARD DANIEL, JR.

SUNDAY MORNING, AUGUST 14, 2022

SCRIPTURE READING: **JOSHUA 2:1-10**

Joshua 2:8-9, And before they were laid down, she came up unto them upon the roof; 9: And she said unto the men, I know that the Lord hath given you the land, and that your terror is fallen upon us, and that all the inhabitants of the land faint because of you.

1. BACKGROUND

- a. Please refer to the August 14, 2022 Evening Message for the Background.

2. INTRODUCTION

- a. Our text today is from **Joshua chapter 2**, and concerns a lady named Rahab.
- b. Some time ago, I announced to some of my friends I was going to preach on Rahab and the first thing they said was she was a pretty shady character.
- c. We need to understand when God gets a hold of a person's life, He changes them therefore, I will preach not on a shady character, but on an outstanding lady yielded to the will of God. **2 Corinthians 5:17, Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.**
- d. This remarkable lady is listed in **Hebrews 11:31** which is a place where God has placed various people who have exercised extraordinary faith. **By faith the harlot Rahab perished not with them that believed not, when she had received the spies with peace.**
- e. Another startling fact is Rahab, a Gentile, is found in the genealogy of Christ. **Matthew 1:5, And Salmon begat Booz of Rachab; and Booz begat Obed of Ruth; and Obed begat Jesse;**
- f. The New Testament opens with that genealogy, and we don't have to read very far until we find this great woman's name listed.
- g. How in the world do you think she got the genealogy of Christ?
- h. She is there because of her remarkable faith.
- i. She came to know Christ as personal Saviour and as a result of that we will see a marvellous testimony of a woman who most people only remember her past. **Philippians 3:13-14, Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, 14: I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.**
- j. Here at Chesswood Baptist Church, we must not focus on the past life of individuals; we are to focus on their new life in Christ Jesus.
- k. It is the responsibility of this local church to disciple people and ground them in the faith and then they can be radiant Christians for our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Our mission is stated in **Ephesians 4:12, For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:**
- l. The Bible states in **2 Corinthians 5:17, Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.**
- m. We need to understand when a person is saved their soul is what gets saved. **Hebrews 10:39, But we are not of them who draw back unto perdition; but of them that believe to the saving of the soul. Leviticus 17:11, For the life of the flesh is in the blood: and I have given it to you upon the altar to make an atonement for your souls: for it is the blood that maketh an atonement for the soul.**

- n. **We must recognize the lust of the flesh; the lust of the eyes and the pride of life still exist. Sometimes the old grave clothes will continue to manifest themselves until we bring the flesh under subjection. 1 Corinthians 9:27, But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway.**
- o. Having said that, we need to get better and better each and every day because we have been predestined to be conformed to the image of God's precious Son. **Romans 8:29, For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren. Romans 12:2, And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.**
- p. With that Introduction, let's see what we can glean from God's Word in the **Book of Joshua.**

3. SEVEN POINTS TO THE MESSAGE

a. Go view the land, even Jericho.

1. **Joshua 2:1, And Joshua the son of Nun sent out of Shittim two men to spy secretly, saying, Go view the land, even Jericho. And they went, and came into an harlot's house, named Rahab, and lodged there.**
2. Please focus your mind on the fact that this is a different passage of Scripture than when the twelve went out to spy the land earlier.
3. They are now on the threshold of entering the Promised Land and Joshua has decided to send two men.
4. **These men are being sent to not see if they can take the land, but to find the best way to enter the land.**
5. The purpose is totally different from the mission of the twelve who went out earlier which Joshua was a member of that party along with Caleb who brought back a positive report.
6. If you recall, the other ten men rendered a negative report concerning Israel's ability to possess the land. **Numbers 13:31, But the men that went up with him said, We be not able to go up against the people; for they are stronger than we.**
7. Joshua and Caleb indicated that **with God all things are possible.**
8. These two men were to go in secret and the mission was to go and view the land.
9. They were directed by God to the house of Rahab the harlot, who happened to be involved in a very shady business.
10. Notice the Word of God says they lodged there.

b. Behold, there came men... of Israel to search out the country.

1. **Joshua 2:2, And it was told the king of Jericho, saying, Behold, there came men in hither to night of the children of Israel to search out the country.**
2. The king of Jericho was very alert to intercept the enemy that was about to invade his beloved city.
3. His intelligence system worked extremely well and as a result of that he knew they came in, but he also knew they came in by night for the purpose to search out his land.
4. Notice his immediate order upon receipt of this report was.

c. Bring forth the men that are come to thee.

1. **Joshua 2:3, And the king of Jericho sent unto Rahab, saying, Bring forth the men that are come to thee, which are entered into thine house: for they be come to search out all the country.**
2. The mission of these men was well known.
3. Not only was this well known, but the location in which they had landed was known as well.
4. The king is very specific in going to the home of Rahab, however, notice her response...

d. There came men unto me, but I wist not whence they were.

1. **Joshua 2:4, And the woman took the two men, and hid them, and said thus, There came men unto me, but I wist not whence they were:**
2. Rahab does not deny the fact that there were two men, but she does not tell the truth concerning their location. Notice her mandate in **Joshua 2:14, And the men answered her, Our**

life for yours, if ye utter not this our business. And it shall be, when the LORD hath given us the land, that we will deal kindly and truly with thee.

3. Notice the Bible says, "**the woman took the two men, and hid them,**"
4. In hiding them she placed not only her life in jeopardy but also the life of the men who were there.
5. At this time, she was involved in a shady business, however; this does not enter into the process.
6. She lied to her own people to protect God's messengers.
7. What a remarkable thing this lady has done; she knows it is better to obey God rather than man. **Acts 5:28-29, Saying, Did not we straitly command you that ye should not teach in this name? and, behold, ye have filled Jerusalem with your doctrine, and intend to bring this man's blood upon us. 29: Then Peter and the other apostles answered and said, We ought to obey God rather than men.**

e. Whither the men went I wot not.

1. **Joshua 2:5-7, And it came to pass about the time of shutting of the gate, when it was dark, that the men went out: whither the men went I wot not; pursue after them quickly; for ye shall overtake them. 6: But she had brought them up to the roof of the house, and hid them with the stalks of flax, which she had laid in order upon the roof. 7: And the men pursued after them the way to Jordan unto the fords: and as soon as they which pursued after them were gone out, they shut the gate.**
2. It is almost dark now, in the city of Jericho.
3. Having indicated that she did not know where these men had gone, she did tell the seekers that they should pursue after them quickly.
5. This brings us face to face with some things we must realize in Scripture.
 - a. The Word of God challenges us to be obedient to authority but when the authority collides with the truth of God's Word, we must be willing to stand up. **Acts 5:29, Then Peter and the other apostles answered and said, We ought to obey God rather than men. 1 Corinthians 15:58, Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.**
 - b. For an example; Peter and John. When the authorities tried to silence them in their witness for Christ; they were very bold in their approach. **Acts 4:19-20, But Peter and John answered and said unto them, Whether it be right in the sight of God to hearken unto you more than unto God, judge ye. 20: For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard. Acts 4:13, Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were unlearned and ignorant men, they marvelled; and they took knowledge of them, that they had been with Jesus.**
6. Rahab is being obedient to God rather than man.
7. The believer is to obey the Word of God rather than the word of man. **Acts 5:29, Then Peter and the other apostles answered and said, We ought to obey God rather than men.**
8. This should be our attitude as a child of God in whatever we do and say.
9. I believe in allowing the Bible to interpret itself. The best commentary on the Bible is the Bible itself. We must always rightly divide the Word of Truth. **2 Timothy 2:15, Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. 1 Corinthians 2:13, Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual. Isaiah 28:10, For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little:**
10. Let's listen to Rahab as she gives an answer as to why she was willing to lie to the authorities to protect the spies.
11. We must remember that this woman is a Gentile and is embedded in the genealogy of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.
 - a. We are reminded from David that the genealogy presented in **Matthew** is through David's son Solomon down to Joseph which gives the legal title to the throne.
 - b. Of course, the genealogy found in **Luke** is from David's son Nathan down to Mary which is the blood line of Jesus Christ.

- f. **And she said unto the men, I know that the Lord hath given you the land**
1. **Joshua 2:8-9, And before they were laid down, she came up unto them upon the roof; 9: And she said unto the men, I know that the Lord hath given you the land, and that your terror is fallen upon us, and that all the inhabitants of the land faint because of you.**
 2. This Canaanite woman gives the two men some insight into the thinking of the entire community.
 3. I am sure, because of her profession, she was well into the chatter around the town.
 4. The word was out that there was a great company of Israelites coming and they believed these people were going to be able to take the land.
 5. The population was stirred up; they were afraid of what was about to happen.
 6. Rahab gives this report to the spies: the people are terrified because of the nation of Israel's advances and what God had done for them in the past.
 7. They were very knowledgeable of the past blessings God had given to Israel.

- g. **For we have heard how the Lord dried up the water of the Red Sea for you.**
1. **Joshua 2:10, For we have heard how the Lord dried up the water of the Red sea for you, when ye came out of Egypt; and what ye did unto the two kings of the Amorites, that were on the other side Jordan, Sihon and Og, whom ye utterly destroyed.**
 2. These people were familiar with history because what they were talking about happened forty years in the past.
 3. They indicated how the Lord dried up the waters of the Red Sea.
 4. I would assume that the local newspaper was buzzing and the word of mouth was being passed very fast.
 5. As we have alluded, during the past forty years God had given these people of Canaan the opportunity to turn to Him; God said to Abraham his seed would be a stranger in a foreign land for four hundred years.
 6. Then in the fourth generation they will come again because of the iniquities of the Amorites was not yet full. **Genesis 15:16, But in the fourth generation they shall come hither again: for the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet full.**
 7. We find it was four hundred and twenty years before this actually happened.
 8. God was going to give the people four hundred and twenty years to decide whether or not they were going to turn to Him.
 9. What a remarkable God we serve!
 10. It reminds me that God is longsuffering. **2 Peter 3:9, The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.**
 11. It was very well known of God's past victories for the Nation Israel.
 12. These people were scared of the fact that Israel was on the move.
 13. As we focus on the past; it was the same God who served and took care of Israel and the same God in the New Testament that sent the Lord Jesus to the cross to die for our sins. **John 1:29, The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.**
 14. God is indeed longsuffering.
 15. As they reviewed all the events God had done for Israel; they knew Israel was a nation that believed and trusted the God of the universe although they were stiff-necked and outside of God's will.
 16. Up until this very moment, He has indicated He has not cast away His people whom He foreknew. **Romans 11:2, God hath not cast away his people which he foreknew. Wot ye not what the scripture saith of Elias? how he maketh intercession to God against Israel, saying,**
 17. Rahab continues her report to the spies.

4. CONCLUSION

- a. My friend, do you know Christ as your personal Saviour?
- b. Regardless of the type of business you have been in before or how your business practices were, when you come to know Christ as Saviour, past sins, present sins and future sins are totally under the blood of Christ.

- c. Remember, God does not regulate the lives of unbelievers.
- d. **Matthew 11:28-29, Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. 29: Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls.**
- e. **Revelation 3:20, Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me.**
- f. The Bible places sin in its proper perspective.
- g. **Romans 3:23, For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;**
- h. **Romans 3:12, They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is none that doeth good, no, not one.**
- i. **We must be clothed in the righteousness of Jesus Christ. Romans 3:22, Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference:**
- j. **Romans 10:9-10, That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. 10: For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.**
- k. This is a remarkable testimony of a lady in the business of prostitution to the genealogy of Jesus Christ and will be at the marriage supper of the Lamb as Jesus sits on the throne to rule and reign for a thousand years.

I'm so glad I'm a part of the Family of God,
 I've been washed in the fountain, cleansed by His Blood!
 Joint heirs with Jesus as we travel this sod,
 For I'm part of the family,
 The Family of God
 You will notice we say "brother and sister" 'round here,
 It's because we're a family and these are so near;
 When one has a heartache, we all share the tears,
 And rejoice in each victory in this family so dear.
 From the door of an orphanage to the house of the King,
 No longer an outcast,
 a new song I sing;
 From rags unto riches, from the weak to the strong,
 I'm not worthy to be here, but PRAISE GOD! I belong!

- l. What an awesome God we serve!
- m. Please stand.

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