

RAHAB, MOTHER OF BOAZ

The traditional Christmas nativity has three Wise Men associate with the birth of Jesus (Matt.2).

This Christmas we will study the following three Wise Women associated with the birth of Jesus.

- Dec.4 Tamar (Matt.1:3) Mother of Perez
- **Dec.11 Rahab (Matt.1:5a) Mother of Boaz**
- Dec.18 Ruth (Matt.1:5b) Mother of Obed
- **Dec.25 and Jan.1 – There will be no Tuesday classes.**

The story of Rahab is found in Joshua Ch.2 and Ch.6. The story behind this story is the Israelites miraculous departure from Egypt and their traveling towards the land of Canaan.

The inhabitants of the land of Canaan became very familiar with the details of the miraculous departure of Israel from Egypt (Josh.2:9-11) “We have heard how the Lord dried up the water of the Red Sea before you when you came out of Egypt, and what you did to the two kings of the Amorites who before the Jordan, to Sihon and Og, whom you utterly destroyed.” (Josh.2:10)

The inhabitants of the land of Canaan were very much aware that Israel’s God, Yahweh, had totally defeated the gods of Egypt and especially Egypt’s main god, Ra (Score: Israel 10 and Egypt 0).

“And 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.**” (Josh.2:11)

Rahab had become very interested in the God of Israel (Positive Volition at God-Consciousness).

**This lesson will study four aspects of how Rahab,
the Canaanite harlot become prominent in Israel’s genealogy of Christ.**

This story is a miracle of God’s grace salvation. It reminds us that God will accept you in Christ no matter what you have done or how the world views you (John 14:6).

1. Once again, we see how God works the mission field seeking PV at GC to give gospel hearing in order to induct them into the amazing grace plan.

Here is another Canaanite woman raised in a polytheistic culture with great interest in monotheistic God.

Who would have picked Rahab out of all the women in the city of Jericho not to say anything about out of all the women in the land of Canaan? How important is Rahab to the plan of God? How important do you think she believes she is to the plan of God? **WHAT ABOUT YOU?**

Who would have ever picked Rahab for the role of messianic motherhood in the plan of God? “For My thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways My ways, declares the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts.” (Isa.55:8-9)

Here is the perfect match for grace salvation. **God seeking those with PV at GC.** “That they should seek God, if perhaps they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each of us.” (Acts 17:27) **Those with PV at GC seeking God.** “For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost.” (Luke 19:10)

2. **As a Canaanite unbeliever, she was delivered from the following five curses by the prophetic grace gospel of Christ (Gal.3:8-9; 1 Cor.15:3-4).**

Standard

- AOS – Rom.5:12; 1 Cor.15:22
- OSN – Rom.7:14

Special

- Canaan – Gen.9:22-27; 10:6, 15-16
- Amorite – Gen.15:16; Lev.18:24-30; Josh.24:8

Fornication: “Do not defile yourselves by any of these things; for by all these the nations which I am casting out before you have become defiled.” (Lev.18:25) [sexual abomination]

God turns cursing into blessings in Christ. “Christ redeemed us from the curse of the Law, **having become a curse for us** – for it is written, ‘Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree’ – in order that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles, so that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.” (Gal.3:13-14)

3. **Rahab was an entrepreneur of a secular prostitution business, hotel, and a dye business.**

However, she earned the reputation as Rahab, the harlot (zanah). She was not a temple prostitute (qadeshah) like Tamar pretended to be in Gen.38:21-22. It is interesting that her name in Hebrew means (broad). She is always referred to as Rahab, the harlot except in the genealogy of Christ in Matt.1:5a.

She didn’t have to keep this title but kept it as a testimony to God’s grace salvation in Christ. Her salvation emphasizes what God’s grace can do for everyone who believes the gospel of Christ. (Eph.2:8-9; 2 Cor.5:17).

She is a reminder that God’s forgiveness subtracts our unrighteousness and God’s justification adds His righteousness – “He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.” (2 Cor.5:21)

4. **As a result of Israel’s war against Jericho, she met two spiritual mature evangelicals’ Israelite spies out of an army of 600,000.** (Numbers 26).

“O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!” (Ps.8:1, 9)

During a short three-day surveillance of Jericho, these spies explained the gospel of grace salvation, which she believed (Josh.2:22). “**By faith**, Rahab the Harlot did not perish along with those who were disobedient, after she had welcomed the spies in peace.” (Heb.11:31; Rom.1:16)

Abraham and Rahab are the only believers that James chose to illustrate justification by works as well as by faith (James 2:17-26).

“You see that a man is justified by works (divine production), and not by faith alone. And in the same way was not Rahab the harlot also justified by works, when she received the messengers and sent them out another way?” (James 2:24-25)

Abraham and Rahab are given as examples of how the faith cycle works resulting in divine production. Divine production is the result and not the cause of spiritual blessing to the CWL.

The faith cycle is able to reduce life’s issues to its utmost simplicity in Christ though categorical bible doctrine (hearing, believing, applying, and completing/ Heb.11:17-19; James 2:21-25/ Abraham - “and in the same way Rahab.”)