

## **Rahab: A Shining Example of God's Grace and Redemption in Action**

Rahab was a Canaanite (pagan) prostitute. But the story of her redemption and transformation is very inspiring, and shows us it doesn't matter how we start in life that counts – its how we finish! Her story also illustrates God's grace and shows us that any person can change for the better, and be used positively to make a difference for the Lord.

### **Rahab's Story**

Rahab did not start well. She was a Canaanite who worshipped multiple false gods. She was also an innkeeper in Jericho who provided sexual favors (i.e. a prostitute).

But God started working in her life, and in Joshua chapter two we see her make a commitment to the one true God. She also put her life on the line to help out and protect the Israelite spies in Jericho (see Joshua 2:1-24).

### **What was the result of Rahab's faith in God and her courage?**

- 1) With help from the intelligence gathered by the Israelite spies, the Canaanite fortified city of Jericho fell (Joshua 5:13 – 6:21).**
- 2) The lives of Rahab and her family were spared (Joshua 6:22-25).**
- 3) Rahab earned a spot in the Hebrews chapter 11 Faith Hall-of-Fame and is honored to this day (Hebrews 11:31).**
- 4) Rahab is honored as a positive example of person of faith AND works by James (the half-brother of Jesus and a leader of the New Testament church) (James 2:25)**
- 5) Rahab ended up marrying an Israelite (Salmon) and had a son (Boaz), and she was in the line of David (she was David's great-great grandmother). She was also in the line of Jesus Christ himself! (Matthew 1:5). The "Son of Man" (Jesus) has Rahab as one of his direct ancestors!**