Blest Be The Tie That Binds

Blest be the tie that binds

Our hearts in Christian love;

The fellowship of kindred minds

Is like to that above.

Before our Father's throne

We pour our ardent prayers;

Our fears, our hopes,

Our aims are one,

Our comforts and our cares.

When we asunder part,

It gives us inward pain;

But we shall still

Be joined in heart,

And hope to meet again.



Burdens Are Lifted At Calvary

Days are filled with sorrow and care,

Hearts are lonely and drear;

Burdens are lifted at Calvary,

Burdens are lifted at Calvary,

Calvary, Calvary,

Burdens are lifted at Calvary,

Cast your care on Jesus today,

Leave your worry and fear,

Burdens are lifted at Calvary,

Burdens are lifted at Calvary,

Calvary, Calvary,

Burdens are lifted at Calvary,

Troubled soul, the Savior can see,

Every heartache and tear,

Burdens are lifted at Calvary,

Burdens are lifted at Calvary,

Calvary, Calvary,

Burdens are lifted at Calvary,



Cleanse Me

Search me, O God,

And know my heart today;

Try me, O Savior,

Know my thoughts, I pray.

See if there be

Some wicked way in me;

Cleanse me from sin,

And set me free.

I praise Thee, Lord,

For cleansing me from sin;

Fulfill Thy Word,

And make me pure within.

Fill me with fire,

Where I once burned with shame;

Grant my desire

To magnify Thy name.

Lord, take my life,

And make it wholly Thine;

Fill my poor heart

With Thy great love divine.

Take all my will,

My passion, self and pride;

I now surrender,

Lord - In me abide.

O, Holy Ghost,

Revival comes from Thee;

Send a revival,

Start the work in me.

Thy Word declares

Thou wilt supply our need;

For blessings now,

O Lord, I humbly plead.



Journey Into Success Hope For Us All

Text: Joshua 2:1-7;

Please Open Your Bibles and read along with me.

Joshua 2:1-7 "And Joshua the son of Nun sent out of Shittim two men as spies secretly, saying, Go, view the land, and Jericho. And they went and came into the house of a harlot whose name was Rahab, and lay there. 2 And it was told the king of Jericho, saying, Behold, there came men in hither tonight of the children of Israel to search out the land.

3 And the king of Jericho sent unto Rahab, saying, Bring forth the men that are come to thee, that are entered into thy house; for they are come to search out all the land. 4 And the woman took the two men, and hid them; and she said, Yea, the men came unto me, but I knew not whence they were: 5 and it came to pass about the time of the shutting of

the gate, when it was dark, that the men went out; whither the men went I know not: pursue after them quickly; for ye will overtake them. 6 But she had brought them up to the roof, 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 the Jordan unto the fords: and as soon as they that pursued after them were gone out, they shut the gate."

Introduction:

No greater contrast of successful people can be found than in the first two chapters of Joshua.

Joshua was raised in a very religious Jewish home as one of God's chosen race.

He saw the plagues in Egypt and watched God divide the Red Sea.

He ate manna that fell from heaven and listened to Moses deliver the Ten Commandments.

He even had Moses as his mentor.

Then, we come to another success story, Rahab, whose background is the polar opposite of Joshua's.

Her story of faith is an example that God can make a success of any of us, regardless of our past.

I. The Revelation of Rahab's Faith

In preparation for the invasion, Joshua. . sent two spies secretly to Jericho.

So they went and entered the house of a prostitute named Rahab and stayed there (2:1).

A. Why Spies – i.e. Missionaries

Joshua did not need information about Jericho because his army was not going to take it; God was.

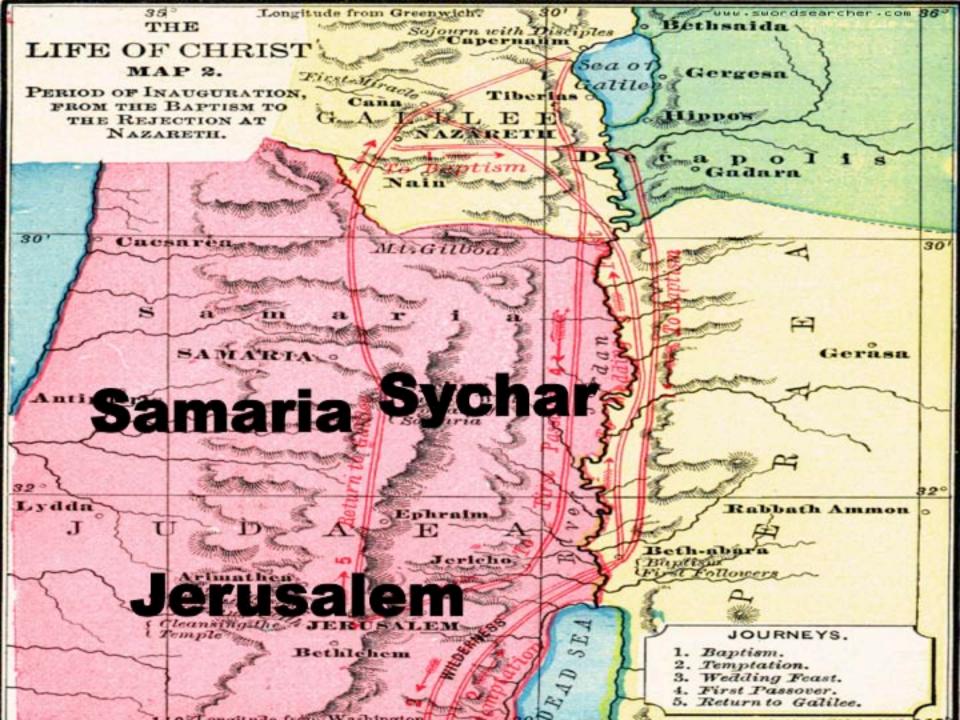
What was needed, however, was the opportunity for Rahab and her family to be saved when Jericho was taken.

This is similar to what we read about Jesus in...

John 4:4 "And he must needs go through Samaria."

Now he had to go through Samaria.

Jews normally would never go through Samaria.



But there was at least one person residing in that country who was ready to BELIEVE.

So, Jesus had to go through Samaria to save that woman.

This is especially interesting because of the facts we learn about the one woman with whom He had contact along the way...

John 4:18 "For thou hast had five husbands; and he whom thou now hast is not thy husband: in that saidst thou truly."

John 4:39 "And many of the Samaritans of that city believed on him <u>for the saying of the woman</u>, which testified, He told me all that ever I did."

B. Why Rahab -

1 Corinthians 6:9-11 "Or know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with men, 10 nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall

inherit the kingdom of God. 11 And such were some of you: but ye were washed, but ye were sanctified, but ye were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, and in the Spirit of our God."

1. Rahab's Life -

James 2:25 "Likewise also was not Rahab the harlot justified by works, when she had received the messengers, and had sent them out another way?"

Hebrews 11:31 "By faith the harlot Rahab perished not with them that believed not, when she had received the spies with peace."

HARLOT - Greek - πορνη

English transliteration - porne ~ pornographic

2. Rahab's Lie

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:"

After the revelation of Rahab's faith we come to...

II. The Declaration of Rahab's Faith

Josh 2:9-11 "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. 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. 11 And as soon as we had heard these things, our hearts did melt, neither did there remain any more courage in any man, because of you: for the

LORD your God, he is God in heaven above, and in earth beneath."

A. Rahab's Quest -

Jeremiah 29:13 "And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart."

B. Rahab's Request -

Joshua 2:12-13 "Now therefore, I pray you, swear unto me by the LORD, since I have showed you kindness, that ye will also show kindness unto my father's house, and give me a true token: 13 And that ye will save alive my father, and my mother, and my brethren, and my sisters, and all that they have, and deliver our lives from death."

After the revelation and declaration of Rahab's faith we come to ...

III. The Demonstration of Rahab's Faith

Joshua 2:18-20 "Behold, when we come into the land, thou shalt bind this line of scarlet thread in the window which thou didst let us down by: and thou shalt bring thy father,

and thy mother, and thy brethren, and all thy father's household, home unto thee. 19 And it shall be, that whosoever shall go out of the doors of thy house into the street, his blood shall be upon his head, and we will be guiltless: and whosoever shall be with thee in the house, his blood shall be on our head, if any hand be upon him. 20 And if thou utter this our

business, then we will be quit of thine oath which thou hast made us to swear."

- A. The Conditions of Covenant -
- 1. The scarlet cord; (2:18a)
- 2. Rahab's whole family; (2:18b-19)
- 3. Secret covenant; (2:21)

James 2:18,20b "Yea, a man may say, Thou hast faith, and I have works: show me thy faith without thy works, and I will show thee my faith by my works. 20b"... faith without works is dead?"

ILL. JESUS said: Matthew 7:20 "Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them."

Making a public profession of our faith in Christ and following Him in baptism is the modern equivalent of Rahab's scarlet thread.

It reveals whose side we are on.

After the Revelation, Declaration and Demonstration of Rahab's Faith we come to...

IV. The Reward of Rahab's Faith

Joshua 6:25 "And Joshua saved Rahab the harlot alive, and her father's household, and all that she had; and she dwelleth in Israel even

unto this day; because she hid the messengers, which Joshua sent to spy out Jericho."

A. Rahab's New Life – (Her Linage)

Matthew 1:5 "And Salmon begat Booz of Rachab; and Booz begat Obed of Ruth; and Obed begat Jesse;"

B. Rahab's Son - BOOZ (BOAZ)

Ruth 4:21-22 "And Salmon begat Boaz, and Boaz begat Obed, 22 And Obed begat Jesse, and Jesse begat David."

C. Rahab's GRANDSON, GREAT GRANDSONS - Jesse, David, Solomon...

JESUS

Conclusion:

How uncomfortable would it be for most of us to admit that our mother or grandmother was a prostitute, but not so with the Son of God.

Why?

Because of the truth found in...

Isaiah 1:18 "Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool."

Invitation:

John 3:16 "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

Acts 10:43 "To him give all the prophets witness, that through his name whosoever believeth in him shall receive remission of sins."

There is no sin that God can't forgive EXCEPT, the rejection of Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.

Benediction