

Joshua 6:25

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

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.

Analysis

Joshua saved Rahab the harlot alive—The verb *chayah* (חַיָּה, 'to preserve alive') echoes God's preservation of Noah (Genesis 7:3) and Joseph's family (Genesis 45:7). Rahab's salvation was comprehensive: herself, her household, and possessions. **She dwelleth in Israel even unto this day**—This editorial note confirms the account's early composition and Rahab's permanent integration into Israel.

Matthew's genealogy places Rahab as ancestress of David and Christ (Matthew 1:5), demonstrating how God's redemptive plan embraces repentant sinners regardless of ethnic or moral background. She married Salmon, a Judahite prince, picturing the church as Gentile bride grafted into Israel's olive tree (Romans 11:17-24). Her scarlet cord (Joshua 2:18) becomes a beautiful type of Christ's blood securing salvation.

Historical Context

Rahab's integration into Israel was extraordinary in the ancient Near East, where conquered peoples were typically enslaved or expelled. Her marriage to Salmon (Ruth 4:20-21; 1 Chronicles 2:11) suggests her high standing. Jewish tradition

holds she married Joshua himself, though Scripture indicates Salmon. Her story occurred circa 1406 BC during the conquest's opening phase.

Related Passages

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

1. How does Rahab's inclusion in Christ's genealogy encourage those burdened by past sins or shameful backgrounds?
2. What does her permanent dwelling 'in Israel' teach about the church's call to embrace and integrate converted outsiders?

Interlinear Text

וְאֵת	רַחַב	הַ זֹנֶה	וְאֵת	בֵּית	אָבִי	וְאֵת	כָּל	אֲשֶׁר
H853	Rahab	the harlot	H853	household	and her father's	H853	H3605	H834
	H7343	H2181		H1004	H1			
לָהּ	חַיָּה	וַיְהוֹשֻׁעַ	וְכָל	שֶׁבַע	בֵּית	רַב		
H0	alive	And Joshua	and all that she had	and she dwelleth	in			
	H2421	H3091		H3427	H7130			
לְיִשְׂרָאֵל	עַד	הַיּוֹם	הַזֶּה	כִּי	הִתְחַבֵּי	אֶת		
Israel	H5704	even unto this day	H2088	H3588	because she hid	H853		
	H3478	H3117			H2244			
וַיִּרְחוּ:	אֶת	לְבַגֵּי	וַיְהוֹשֻׁעַ	שֶׁל	אֲשֶׁר	הַמַּלְאָכִים		
H853	Jericho	to spy out	And Joshua	sent	H834	the messengers		
	H3405	H7270	H3091	H7971		H4397		

Additional Cross-References

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

Matthew 1:5 (Parallel theme): And Salmon begat Booz of Rachab; and Booz begat Obed of Ruth; and Obed begat Jesse;

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

Joshua 2:6 (Parallel theme): 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.

Acts 2:21 (Salvation): And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved.

Joshua 4:9 (Parallel theme): And Joshua set up twelve stones in the midst of Jordan, in the place where the feet of the priests which bare the ark of the covenant stood: and they are there unto this day.