

# RAHAB CHANGES INTIMACY

JAMES 2:25, 26

*How did you see God working in your life this week? (Romans 1:11, 12)*

BACKGROUND: God's power seen in His wrath brought such overwhelming fear that Rahab quickly grasped for God's gift of saving faith. Her resulting works were compared biblically to those of Abraham.

***SHE SAW WHAT GOD WAS DOING*** and she saw what she was doing. Not only did Rahab have a terror of God, but she also had a terror of accountability to Him. She received the messengers (KJV, ESV) of God as from Him; and with faith she placed her life and salvation into His hand and helped the spies. (**James 2:25, fn 2:25, Joshua 2:1-11, fn 2:11, I Corinthians 6:9-11, fn 6:9-11[1<sup>st</sup>], II Corinthians 7:10, fn 7:10, II Corinthians 6:1, 2, fn 6:2**) *What led you to the Lord?*

***SHE JOINED THE LORD AND HIS PEOPLE.*** With faith came God's righteousness and her justification. To be justified like Rahab means that God declares you righteous as He is righteous, making fellowship and intimacy with Him possible. In the eternal plan of God, this Gentile woman, saved by her fear of and trust in God, was used by Him in the battle against sinful Jericho. Rahab later became the great-grandmother of King David and was mentioned in the lineage of Jesus in Matthew. (**James 2:25, Joshua 2:12-21, Joshua 6:20-23, Colossians 1:12-14, fn 1:12-14, Romans 4:18-5:2, fn 4:25, fn 5:1, Romans 8:28-30, fn 8:29, 30, Matthew 1:5, fn 1:3-6, Hebrews 11:31, fn 11:31**) *How could your quiet time with the Holy Spirit help you to have intimacy and fellowship with the Lord? What makes this possible?*

***SHE PROVED THAT TRUE FAITH WORKS.*** "Two things are clear from Holy Scripture. First, *salvation is by faith alone*.... The second thing the Scriptures are clear about is that *salvation is by a faith that is not alone*." R. Kent Hughes, James: Faith That Works, pp.122, 123. If there is true faith, there will be works. Faith always produces good works. If one *claims to have faith* but has no works, he really has no faith at all. James says that his faith is "dead." James calls us not to be observers, but followers. (**James 2:26, James 2:17, fn 2:17, John 6:28, 29, fn 6:28, 29, I John 3:23, 24, fn 3:24, Galatians 5:6, fn 5:6, Luke 9:57-62, fn 9:62**) *What "works" has the Lord led you to that verify your faith?*

*Check up—How is your relationship with your neighbor, your spouse, and your Lord. Do your actions show that you are being led by the Holy Spirit?*

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