

That The World May Know: The Promised Land – Session 3: First Fruits

Rahab—Woman's Incredible Story

1. What happened when Joshua sent two spies into Jericho? Joshua 2:1 – 7
2. What did Rahab say to the foreign spies? Why did she risk so much to protect them? Joshua 2:8 – 13
3. What did the spies promise to do for her? Joshua 2:14
4. Why did God allow the Hebrews to spare the lives of Rahab and her family when Jericho was destroyed? Joshua 6:20 – 25
5. What do you understand about the character of God when seeing Rahab's name in the genealogy of Jesus? Matthew 1:1 - 7

The People God Can Use

1. Look up each of the following passages and summarize what you discover about the people God has used to carry out his plans.
 - a. Genesis 38:6 – 19
Matthew 1:3
 - b. Joshua 2:1 – 15,
Joshua 6:22 – 25
Matthew 1:5
 - c. Ruth 1:1 – 22
Matthew 1:5
 - d. 2 Samuel 11:1 – 17
Matthew 1:6
2. In light of their life stories, what is the significance of God choosing Rahab, Bathsheba, Tamar, and Ruth to be in Jesus' ancestral line?
3. With these Biblical accounts in mind, who else can you think of who came from a sinful past, chose a personal relationship with God through Jesus, and went on to become a powerful instrument in sharing the message of Jesus?

God's Love of Holiness

The conquest of Canaan and the destruction of cities such as Jericho pose an ethical dilemma for many Bible readers. How could the God of Love and Mercy demand such merciless destruction of the inhabitants of the Promised Land? Although none of us can completely understand the Sovereign God of the Universe, the Bible reveals much about how seriously God views sin.

1. What kind of world did God create from the chaos of water?
Genesis 1:2 and 1:31
2. How did Adam and Eve – the crown of God's creation – respond toward God in the Garden of Eden?
Genesis 3:1 – 12
3. What has God always wanted His people to be?
Joshua 24:19 – 23
Leviticus 11:44
1 Peter 1:15 and 2:9
4. What does each of the following passages reveal about how God views sin?
 - a. Numbers 15: 32 – 40
 - b. Exodus 19:5 – 6
 - c. Exodus 32:1 – 14
Exodus 32:31 – 35
 - d. 1 Corinthians 6:18 – 20

When God's Judgment Falls

1. As the Israelites prepared to battle the pagan nations to the Promised Land, what instructions did God give them concerning their attacks on cities such as Jericho?
Deuteronomy 20:16 – 18
Joshua 6:16 – 24
2. What accompanied the Israelites as they marched around Jericho
Joshua 6:6 – 9
3. Look up these verses and describe God's response to, and judgment of, sin.
 - a. Genesis 6:5 – 9
 - b. Genesis 18:20 – 33
 - c. Numbers 16:1 – 11
 - d. Numbers 25:1 – 9
 - e. Revelation 20:7 – 10
4. Contrast God's judgment of sin with John 3:16 and 1 John 1:9.

References

Genesis 1	Joshua 2
Genesis 2	Joshua 6
Genesis 3	Joshua 7
Genesis 6	Joshua 24
Genesis 7	Ruth 1
Genesis 8	2 Samuel 11
Genesis 13	1 Kings 16
Genesis 18	Jeremiah 49
Genesis 19	Zechariah 11
Genesis 38	Zechariah 14
Exodus 19	Matthew 1
Exodus 32	1 John 1
Leviticus 11	John 3
Leviticus 18	1 Corinthians 6
Leviticus 23	1 Thessalonians 4
Numbers 15	1 Peter 1
Numbers 16	1 Peter 2
Numbers 25	Revelation 20
Deuteronomy 20	