



WAY TO VICTORY
A STUDY OF JOSHUA
#3: AN UNLIKELY HERO—JOSHUA 2:1-24
JIM HINTON



Fight the good fight of faith...
1 Timothy 6:12 (NCV)

These things happened to them as a warning to us. All this was written in the Scriptures to teach us who live in these last days.

1 Corinthians 10:11 (CEV)

I. RAHAB: FROM SHAME TO SALVATION

1. Her disadvantages:

- **Gentile**
- **Amorite**
- **Pagan**
- **Prostitute**
- **Outcast**

The same Jesus Who turned water into wine can transform your home, your life, your family, and your future. He is still in the miracle-working business, and His business is the business of transformation.

Adrian Rogers

2. Her merits:

- **Became a great woman of faith**

⇒ **Only one of two woman named in the “Hall of Faith”**

Faith led the prostitute Rahab to welcome the spies as friends. She was not killed with those who refused to obey God.

Hebrews 11:31 (GWT)

⇒ **Praised for her example of active faith**

You see that a person receives God’s approval because of what he does, not only because of what he believes. The same is true of the prostitute Rahab who welcomed the spies and sent them away on another road. She received God’s approval because of what she did.

James 2:24-25 (GWT)

- **Possessed the courage to risk her life to save the spies**

- **Loved her family**
- **Helped God's people win a strategic victory**
- **Resourceful and creative in the way she hid the spies**
- **Experienced a radical transformation**
- **Included in the genealogy of the Messiah**

Salmon was the father of Boaz (whose mother was Rahab). Boaz was the father of Obed (whose mother was Ruth). Obed was the father of Jesse. Jesse was the father of King David.
Matthew 1:5-6 (NLT)

II. RAHAB: A VERY UNLIKELY HERO - JOSHUA 2:1-24

- 1. Runs a brothel/inn where the Israelite spies stay (v.1)**
- 2. Ordered by the king to hand over the men (v.2-3).**
- 3. Hides the spies and sends the king's agents on a "wild goose chase" (v.4-7)**
- 4. Expresses her faith in the one true God (v.8-11)**
- 5. Makes a deal with the Israelite spies (v.12-14)**
- 6. Enables the men to escape (v.15-24)**

The significance of the "scarlet cord":

- **It was probably a signal she had used before**
- **Scarlet was a color that symbolized sin**

"Come now, let's settle this," says the LORD. "Though your sins are like scarlet, I will make them as white as snow."

Isaiah 1:18 (NLT)

- **Interestingly, scarlet is also the color of salvation**

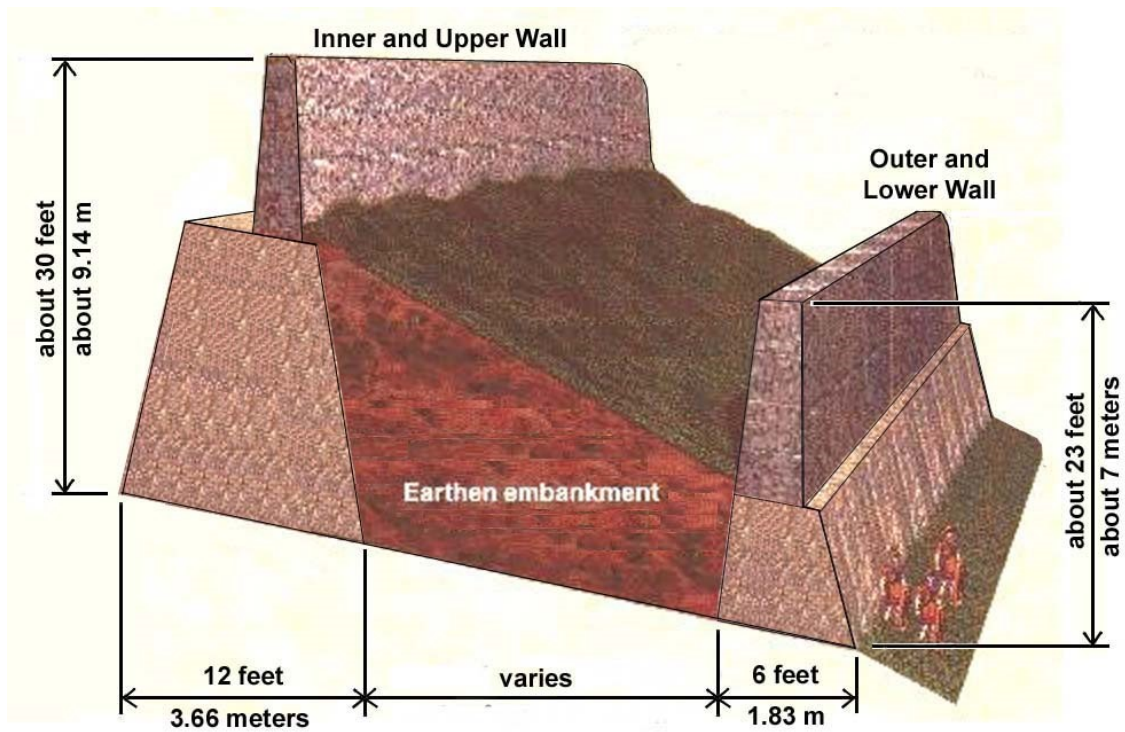
When it snows, she has no fear for her household; for all of them are clothed in scarlet.

Proverbs 31:21 (NIV)

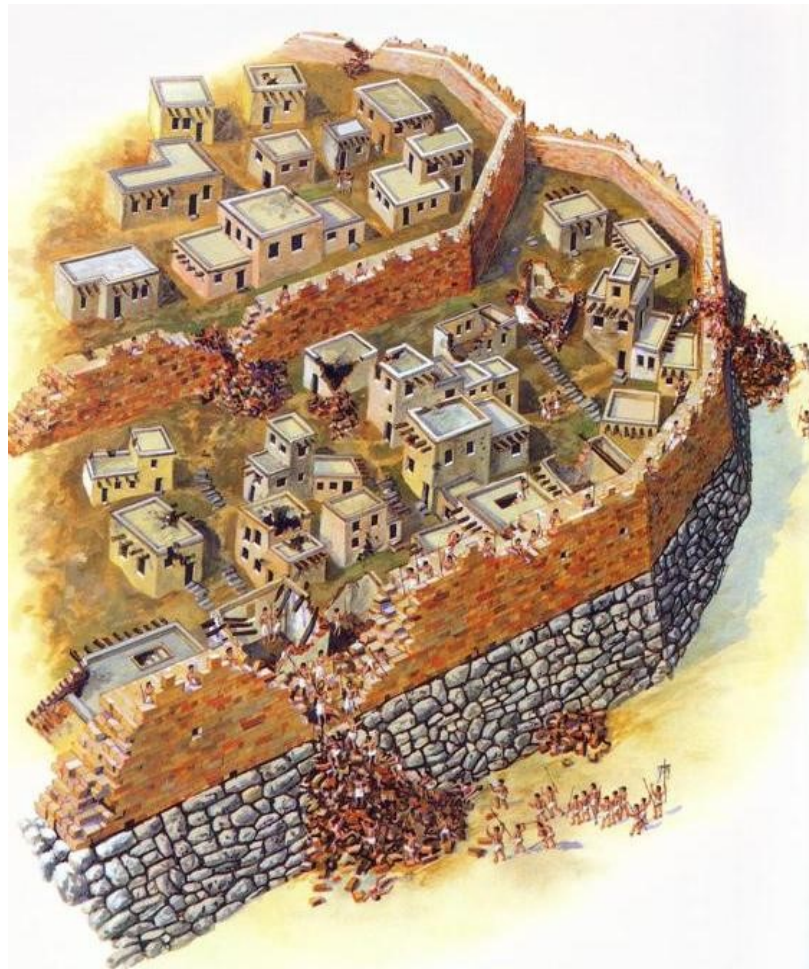
Some of the governor's soldiers took Jesus into their headquarters and called out the entire regiment. They stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him. They wove thorn branches into a crown and put it on his head, and they placed a reed stick in his right hand as a scepter. Then they knelt before him in mockery and taunted, "Hail! King of the Jews!"

Matthew 27:27-29 (NLT)

THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE WALLS OF JERICHO



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The Ancient Near East, 1800 to 1400 B.C.



Map 1 - The Ancient Near East, 1800 to 1400 B.C. (from CEV Maps, Copyright © 1995 American Bible Society. All rights reserved.)