

“Women of the Bible” (#2)
“RAHAB”

Today’s Mother’s Day lesson background is taken from the Book of Ruth.

Cliffnote: Elimelech and Naomi and their two sickly sons left Israel during a time of war and famine. They went to Moab for 10 years. During these 10 years, their sons married Moabite women (Orpah and Ruth). Naomi’s husband died and then her two sons. She became destitute and decided to return to her hometown of Bethlehem. Ruth chose to go with Naomi. Boaz met Ruth and accepted Levirate goel responsibility. They were married and had a son named Obed in the lineage of Christ.

On the blank line, write the name of Ruth’s mother-in-law recorded in messianic history _____.
The answer is found in messianic history of Ruth 4:21 and Matt.1:5.

This lesson will study five aspects of the Role of Godly Mother-In-Laws.

We will focus on five factors of the influence of Rahab in messianic history as the mother-in-law of Ruth from Matt.1:5.

- 1. God is in control of redemptive history. He is responsible to bring gospel hearing to positive volition of God-consciousness (2 Pet.3:9).**

Biblical historians say that one of the two spies sent into Jericho on military reconnaissance was Salmon (Josh.2). The Scriptures don’t give the names of the spies.

We know that Rahab hid the spies. We know Rahab and her kin were spared and became part of Israel’s messianic history (Josh.6; Matt.1:5). We know she was either Moabite (native) or Amorite (earlier invader). We know she was a successful business woman of Scarlet thread and brothel house.

- 2. God took responsibility to give gospel hearing to Rahab because of positive volition at God consciousness (Acts 17:24-27) (Josh.2:9-14) [“We have heard”]**

God brought a war and an ambassador for Christ (soldier) into her life to bring her into a salvation relationship with God that would dramatically change her life forever (2 Cor.5:17-21; Rom.10:14-15).

An ambassador of Christ is one who looks for open door opportunities of the gospel of Christ (Co.4:1-4).

- Presents a **clear gospel** of grace salvation (1 Cor.15:3-4).
- Presents a **clear invitation** to grace salvation (Rom.1:16; Eph.2:8-9).
- Presents a **clear promise** of eternal life (John 3:16; 5:25; 10:28; 1 John 5:11-13).

Rahab must have been thrilled to learn God’s complete forgiveness in Christ.

(Isa.1:18) “Thought your sins are as scarlet, they will be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they will be like wool.”

- 3. God’s amazing grace salvation brought Rahab into a changed life in Christ (2 Cor.5:17-21).**

Rahab is mentioned three times in the NT (Matt.1:5; Heb.11:31; James 2:25). **Matt.1:5** is the only time that Rahab is not introduced by phrase, **Harlot**.

In (Matt.1:5), Rahab is identified with Christ and **not with the world**. NOW in Christ, she possesses the labels given by God to His Son and to all who believe He died for their sins, was burial and resurrection to gave them eternal life (2 Cor.5:17; 1 Cor.15:3-4; Rom.1:16; Eph.2:8-9; John 10:28).

In fact, Tamar, Rahab, and Ruth are mentioned without an additional phrase attached (**not so with** Bathsheba) (Matt.1:6) and Mary (Matt.1:16).

20 Christian labels (2 Cor.5:17): Child of Promise, Son of God, Beloved, Son of light, Joint-heir, Saint, Citizen of Heaven, Firstborn, New Creation, Possessor of EL, Priest, Ambassador, Soldier of Christ, Elected, Righteous, Brethren, Bond-slave of Christ, Called, Member of body of Christ, Living stone in body of Christ. – **“As He is, so also are we in this world.” (1 John 4:17b)**

4. **In Rahab, we see God’s redemptive history unfolding in one of the most unlikely person on the basis of God’s amazing grace.**

She was one of the two women heroes of the faith recorded in Heb.11.

Salmon and Rahab are listed as parents of Boaz:

(Matt.1:5) “Salmon was the father of **Boaz by Rahab**, Boaz was the father of Obed by Ruth, and Obed the father of Jesse (Luke 3:32).

Rahab is an example of God’s amazing grace saving the worst of sinners for the best of believers in plan of God (1 Tim.1:15).

5. **From the time of her amazing grace salvation, Rahab embraced the directive will of God.**

God brought her a godly husband and godly mother-in-laws. Ruth was the benefactor of two godly families (Naomi and Rahab).

These things influenced these two Gentile women believers to focus on the importance of - “Doing the will of God from the heart” (Eph.6:6b). The Directive will of God became the filter through which everything passed through their lives.

THOUGHT: God directs the lives of spiritually maturing believers towards the events of redemptive history by His directive will.

Remember these three classifications of God’s will (2 Cor.5:7).

- **Directive Will:** What Categorical Bible Doctrine (CBD) teaches us about specific issues.
- **Permissive Will:** What God volitionally allows regarding His Directive Will.
- **Over-ruling Will:** What God will not allow regarding His Directive Will.

Remember these three categories for the exercise of the Directive Will of God (James 2:22-25).

- **Geographical will:** Where does God want us to exercise His Directive Will?
- **Operational will:** What does the Directive Will God want us to do?
- **Mental will:** How does God want us to think about His Directive Will?

THE IMPORTANT ROLE OF GODLY MOTHER-IN-LAWS IN THE PLAN OF GOD