

Lesson #3 – Joshua Crossing the Jordan River

Joshua sent two spies into Jericho to find out about things in the city. Everyone in Jericho knew the Israelites had been camped right across the river and they were very much afraid of them. The two spies found a place to stay at Rahab's house.

The king of Jericho heard that there were spies in the city. He sent his men to Rahab's house to arrest the men. Rahab knew that the king would kill these men so she hid them on the roof of her house. She placed stalks of flax over the men so they could not be seen.

When the men came to Rahab's door she told them spies were no longer there. The soldiers went to look for the spies elsewhere. Rahab told the spies it was clear for them to leave. She also told them that she believed in the true God. She asked the two spies to save her and her family when they came to destroy Jericho. The two spies agreed to this and told her to gather her family inside her house. She was to put a red cord in a window so her house could be identified.

Rahab helped the spies escape from her house by letting them down from a window by a rope. Since Rahab's house was built onto the city wall, the men could get over the wall with ease. They ran to rejoin Joshua and the rest of the camp. They reported that all was set for them to go into Jericho for the Lord would deliver them.

The Israelites washed and sanctified themselves. Joshua told them they were moving forward in three days. They packed up their belongings and were ready to go. The priest went first with the Ark of the Covenant. When their feet touched the water, the Jordan River parted as the Red Sea had. Dry land appeared in the middle of the river bed. The priest stood in the middle of the Jordan until all the people had crossed to the other side.

When all were across, Joshua called for a man from each tribe to pick up a stone from the river. They stacked up the 12 stones as a memorial. God wanted them to remember how He had brought them to the Promised Land.

What is our memorial today? It is the Lord's Supper that is taken every Sunday so that we remember Jesus' death, burial, and resurrection. We need to remember the sacrifice He made for us just as the Israelites needed to remember how God had helped them as they traveled to the Promise Land.

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True and False Questions

- T F 1. Joshua was the new leader.
- T F 2. He sent 10 men to spy on Jericho.
- T. F 3. The men hid in Rahab's house.
- T F 4. Rahab hid them in the basement.
- T F 5. The king's men found the spies.
- T F 6. Rahab believed in God.
- T F 7. The spies went out a window.
- T F 8. They climbed on a blue rope.
- T F 9. Rahab wanted them to save her family.
- T F 10. The spies reported to Joshua.
- T F 11. In three days, they were ready to cross the river.
- T F 12. The Jordan parted when the priest feet hit water.
- T F 13. The people made a memorial of 50 stones.