

## Rahab

(Not to be confused with the mythological beast of *Psa 89:10; Job 9:13; 26:12; Isa. 51:9*)

1. **Joshua 2:** Why did Rahab welcome the two Israeli spies?
2. **Joshua 6:15-17, 22-25:**
  - a. Did Rahab change her life after she knew the God of Israel?
  - b. Did she commit a white "lie"? Give other Biblical examples.
3. **Matthew 1:5:** What is the significance of Rahab being one of the women listed in Jesus' ancestry?
4. **Hebrews 11:31:** Why is Rahab included in the "heroes of the faith"?
5. **James 2:25:** Was Rahab justified by works?

## Ruth

1. **Ruth 1:1-7: Why did Naomi and Elimelech go to Moab?**
  - a. Who are the Moabites? (Gen 19:36-38)
  - b. Book of Ruth begins with death (1:3-5) and ends with birth (4:13)
2. **Two things Israel needed:**
  - a. *1:1: "Days when the judges ruled" (Jgs 17:6)*
    - Ruth conceives (4:13)
    - Produces an heir who will be king (4:17-21)
  - b. *What does the famine in Israel mean? (Deut 28:15-24)*
    - (1) The LORD gives his people food (Lev. 19:9-10, laws on gleanings; Psa 37:21)
    - (2) Boaz lets her glean more than required by the law (2:15-16)
    - (3) Because of their need for food, Ruth meets her *kinsman-redeemer* (2:1-2), and her *King-Redeemer* (4:13-17).

### What is a kinsman-redeemer? (from Ligonier Ministries)

"The concept of the kinsman-redeemer lies behind Ruth 3-4. The brother of a man who died childless in ancient Israel had to marry the widow left behind and father a son to carry on the dead man's name and care for his family (Gen. 38; Deut. 25:5-10). This implies that other male relatives could raise up an heir for a dead man who had no brother. A related law said relatives must buy back (redeem) the property of a kinsman who lost his land ([Lev. 25:47-55](#)). Naomi is about to lose Elimelech's land and has no son to care for her and Ruth ([Ruth 4:1-4](#)), and so she asks Ruth to pursue Boaz in 3:1-5 in order to keep the property and produce an heir."

### Did Ruth have sexual relations with Boaz at the threshing floor?

1. What was Boaz's prayer for Ruth? Compare Ruth 2:12 and 3:9-10. "*wings*" in 3:9 can mean "the edge of your garment. So *"spread your wings over your servant"* may be Ruth's proposal for marriage. But what does it mean when God *"spreads his wings"* over Israel? Exodus 25:20; Deuteronomy 32:11; Psalm 17:8, 36:7; and Ezekiel 16:8.
2. Boaz calls Ruth *"a worthy woman"* or *"a woman of excellence."* Compare with Prov. 12:4; 31:10.
3. Why does Boaz praise her? ([Ruth 3:10](#))
3. What steps did Boaz do, and what promises did he make to Ruth in 3:10-15?
4. What does the verb *"lodge"* mean in 1:16 and 3:13 (*"lie down"*)? (cf Josh 3:1).
5. Did Ruth do all that Naomi had commanded her?

"Ultimately, Ruth is asking Boaz to be her husband, redeemer, and to give her a child. This was risky because it was then unheard of for women to propose marriage. Furthermore, her life would be in danger if she were to be found with a man at night and charged with adultery ([Lev. 20:10](#)). Ruth could have sought a younger man, but instead she looked to Boaz because she loved Naomi selflessly and desired her family to be redeemed." (from Ligonier Ministries)