

Joshua Lesson 4 Handout – Difficult past – Exciting future



Leviticus 18

¹ And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, ² “Speak to the people of Israel and say to them, I am the LORD your God. ³ You shall not do as they do in the land of Egypt, where you lived, and you shall not do as they do in the land of Canaan, to which I am bringing you. You shall not walk in their statutes.

²¹ ‘You shall not give any of your offspring to offer them to Molech, nor shall you profane the name of your God; I am the LORD.

²² ‘You shall not lie with a male as one lies with a female; it is an abomination.

²³ ‘Also you shall not have intercourse with any animal to be defiled with it, nor shall any woman stand before an animal to mate with it; it is a perversion.

²⁵ ‘For the land has become defiled, therefore I have brought its punishment upon it, so the land has spewed out its inhabitants.

Joshua 2:1 (AMP)

¹ JOSHUA SON of Nun sent two men secretly from Shittim as scouts, saying, Go, view the land, especially Jericho. And they went and came to the house of a harlot named Rahab and lodged there.

2 Corinthians 5:17 (ESV)

¹⁷ Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

2 Corinthians 5:17–18 (AMP)

¹⁷ Therefore if any person is [ingrafted] in Christ (the Messiah) he is a new creation (a new creature altogether); the old [previous moral and spiritual condition] has passed away. Behold, the fresh *and* new has come!

Luke 13:6–9 (ESV)

⁶ And he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came seeking fruit on it and found none. ⁷ And he said to the vinedresser, 'Look, for three years now I have come seeking fruit on this fig tree, and I find none. Cut it down. Why should it use up the ground?' ⁸ And he answered him, 'Sir, let it alone this year also, until I dig around it and put on manure. ⁹ Then if it should bear fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.' "

Joshua 2:2 It was told the king of Jericho, Behold, there came men in here tonight of the Israelites to search out the country. ³ And the king of Jericho sent to Rahab, saying, Bring forth the men who have come to you, who entered your house, for they have come to search out the land. ⁴ But the woman had taken the two men and hidden them. So she said, Yes, two men came to me, but I did not know from where they had come. ⁵ And at gate closing time, after dark, the men went out. Where they went I do not know. Pursue them quickly, for you will overtake them. ⁶ But she had brought them up to the roof and hidden them under the stalks of flax which she had laid in order there. ⁷ So the men pursued them to the Jordan as far as the fords.

As soon as the pursuers had gone, the city's gate was shut. ⁸ Before the two men had lain down, Rahab came up to them on the roof, ⁹ And she said to the men, I know that the Lord has given you the land and that your terror is fallen upon us and that all the inhabitants of the land faint because of you. ¹⁰ For we have heard how the Lord dried up the water of the Red Sea for you when you came out of Egypt, and what you did to the two kings of the Amorites who were on the [east] side of the Jordan, Sihon and Og, whom you utterly destroyed. ¹¹ When we heard it, our hearts melted, neither did spirit *or* courage remain any more in any man because of you, for the Lord your God, He is God in heaven above and on earth beneath.

John 3:30 says: "He must increase, but I must decrease."

Joshua 2:12 Now then, I pray you, swear to me by the Lord, since I have shown you kindness, that you also will show kindness to my father's house, and give me a sure sign, ¹³ And save alive my father and mother, my brothers and sisters, and all they have, and deliver us from death. ¹⁴ And the men said to her, Our lives for yours! If you do not tell this business of ours, then when the Lord gives us the land we will deal kindly and faithfully with you. ¹⁵ Then she let them down by a rope through the window, for her house was built into the [town] wall so that she dwelt in the wall. ¹⁶ And she said to them, Get to the mountain, lest the pursuers meet you; hide yourselves there three days until the pursuers have returned; and afterward you may go your way. ¹⁷ The men said to her, We will be blameless of

this oath you have made us swear. [The responsibility is now yours.] ¹⁸ Behold, when we come into the land, you shall bind this scarlet cord in the window through which you let us down, and you shall bring your father and mother, your brothers, and all your father's household into your house.

¹⁹ And if anyone goes out of the doors of your house into the street, his blood shall be upon his head, and we will be guiltless; but if a hand is laid upon anyone who is with you in the house, his blood shall be on our head. ²⁰ But if you tell this business of ours, we shall be guiltless of your oath which you made us swear. ²¹ And she said, According to your words, so it is. Then she sent them away and they departed; and she bound the scarlet cord in the window. ²² They left and went to the mountain and stayed there three days, until the pursuers returned, who had searched all along the way without finding them.

Mark 6:7 & 12 (AMP)

⁷ And He called to Him the Twelve [apostles] and began to send them out [as His ambassadors] two by two and gave them authority *and* power over the unclean spirits. ¹² So they went out and preached that men should repent [that they should change their minds for the better and heartily amend their ways, with abhorrence of their past sins].

Holman Treasury of Key Bible Words

The Greek word for “repentance” is a compound word derived from *meta*, meaning “after,” and suggesting “some type of change,” and *nous*, meaning “mind.” Thus, *metanoia* strictly denotes “a change of mind”—a rejection of past sinful ways. But it also connotes remorse for sin, accompanied by a desire to turn away from one’s sin and to God for salvation. Such repentance accompanies faith in Christ (Acts 20:21).¹

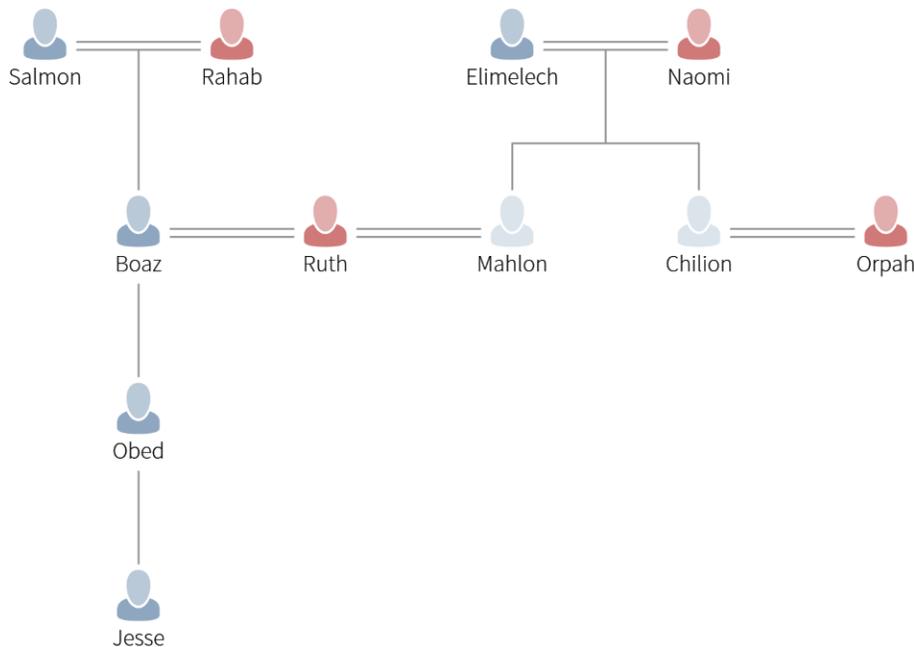
Acts 20:21 (NASB95)

²¹ solemnly testifying to both Jews and Greeks of repentance toward God and faith in our Lord Jesus Christ.

It is inconsistent and unintelligible to suppose that anyone could believe in Christ and yet not repent. Repentance is such an important aspect of conversion that it is often stressed more than faith, as when Christ said that there is joy in heaven among the angels over one sinner that repents (Luke 15:7).

The apostles described the conversion of the Gentiles to Christ as God granting them “repentance unto life” (Acts 11:18). Both John the Baptist and Jesus began their ministries with a call to repentance (Matt. 3:2; 4:17)—a call which many of the social

outcasts and “sinners” of that day answered while the religious people of that day rejected it (Luke 11:39–44; 18:9–14).²



Hebrews 11 (NASB95)

¹⁷ By faith Abraham, ²⁰ By faith Isaac blessed Jacob and Esau, even regarding things to come. ²¹ By faith Jacob, ²² By faith Joseph, ²³ By faith Moses, ²⁹ By faith they passed through the Red Sea as though *they were passing* through dry land; and the Egyptians, when they attempted it, were drowned. ³⁰ By faith the walls of Jericho fell down after they had been encircled for seven days. ³¹ By faith Rahab the harlot did not perish along with those who were disobedient, after she had welcomed the spies in peace.

John 1:12 (NASB95)

¹² But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, *even* to those who believe in His name

Joshua 2:23 So the two men descended from the mountain, passed over [the Jordan], and came to Joshua son of Nun, and told him all that had befallen them. ²⁴ They said to Joshua, Truly the Lord has given all the land into our hands; for all the inhabitants of the country are faint because of us.

Proverbs 21:1 (AMP)

¹ THE KING'S heart is in the hand of the Lord, as are the watercourses; He turns it whichever way He wills.

Jeremiah 50:9 (NIV84)

⁹ For I will stir up and bring against Babylon an alliance of great nations from the land of the north.

Haggai 1:14 (NIV84)

¹⁴ So the LORD stirred up the spirit of Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah,

Judges 13:25 (NIV84)

²⁵ and the Spirit of the LORD began to stir him while he was in Mahaneh Dan, between Zorah and Eshtaol.

2 Chronicles 21:16 (ESV)

¹⁶ And the LORD stirred up against Jehoram the anger of the Philistines and of the Arabians who are near the Ethiopians.

Ezra 1:1 (ESV)

¹ In the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, that the word of the LORD by the mouth of Jeremiah might be fulfilled, the LORD stirred up the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia,