

RAHAB THE SCARLET WOMAN

By Rod

Based on the story of Rahab in Joshua 3 and 5 and referring to the genealogy of Jesus in Matthew 1. A poem designed to be read, but with a team performing some actions to dramatise the events. Some suggestions are made, but feel free to be inventive.

CAST

With a minimum of 5 actors the roles would need to be exchanged as follows.

1	Spy	Salmon		
2	Spy	Jesus		
3	Rahab	[Dressed in red]		
4	Joshua	City people	Child	Ruth
5	Man	City people	Jew	Boaz

PROPS LIST

[These can be kept on a props table at back of stage and grabbed when needed – except where indicated]

Jericho Times with headline “Wall Street Crash Predicted” [Rahab has at start]

3 coins (shekels) [Man has at start]

2 x I-SPY cards [Joshua has at start]

Hand held mirror [One spy has at start]

2 x SPY signs on backs of spies at beginning

Cunning Plan sign [kept in pulpit]

Rope [Kept in pulpit]

Large Bible

WHY sign

Red cord [Kept in pulpit]

Boxes to make wall [In position at start]

Expandable paper dolls chain

Crown for King Jesus

Now this is the story of Rahab
Who lived in the town Jericho.
Now Rahab was not a good woman
Men paid her three shekels a go.

*Rahab steps forward.
Holds up Jericho Times with headline “Wall Street crash predicted”
Man steps forward, pays and goes off with Rahab[Stage Right]*

When Josh’a arrived at the Jordan
He picked out two sensible guys;
These two were sent out on a mission.
Hand-picked to go forward as spies.

*Joshua steps forward
Selects 2 spies from group
Joshua points and gives 2 cards
They hold up cards “I-spy”[Joshua moves stage left. Spies down steps]*

They stayed in the house of our Rahab
They lodged with her inside the city.
But their cover was rapidly blown;
For them things were not looking pretty.

*Enter Rahab to meet spies as they return
On centre stage.They ‘enter her home’
Citizens [below steps]arrive. Look menacing
They hold up mirrors, look in and look aghast*

So why were they rumbled so quickly? *Spies look puzzled*
 As super sleuths what did they lack?
 Jewish accent spoken too thickly?
 Or sign saying "Spy" on their back? *They turn round to reveal sign on backs.*

But 'twas Rahab came to their rescue. *Rahab directs spies up into pulpit*
 Of her cunning here was the proof. *Then goes to meet citizens. Points them in*
 She said that the spies had now left her, *wrong direction. They go off [Left]*
 When she'd hid them up in her roof. *Spies peer out from their hiding place.*

Now her house was built in the ramparts; *Rahab goes up into pulpit.*
 Of the plains it had stunning views. *She plays part of estate Agent showing off*
 With windows enjoying great aspects, *her house.*
 She devised a masterly ruse. *Holds up sign "Cunning Plan"*

She slung a rope out of her window, *Holds up rope. And lays it out from pulpit.*
 For the two to make their way down. *Shows them her plan.*
 So for Jews she's gone down in hist'ry; *Enter Jew form left with 'child' and Bible*
 Helping spies to get out of town. *From which he is reading.*

But "Why?" we might ask of her actions. *Child hold up big sign "Why"*
 Her betray'l's exceedingly odd.
 But Rahab had laid out her reason: *Jew looks knowing.*
 She had learned in faith to fear God. *Rahab points up to God.*

With the spies she'd struck up a bargain, *Holds out her hand to spies*
 In hope she'd be spared by the Lord. *Looks questioning.*
 "It's a deal", they said, "if you promise *One spy shakes, the other produces red*
 To tie in your window this cord." *Cord. Then they depart down rope and join*
Jew and child to become tribe of Israel.
They march towards and 'round ' Jericho.
Jew keeps Bible

She had the first ever sash window, *She mimes opening window.*
 With red cord - that spared her her life. *Hangs red cord in position.*
 She was saved from Jericho's rubble, *Jews knock down wall.*
 And Jew Salmon took her as wife. *Salmon takes her by the hand from pulpit*
and leads her towards front of stage

She became the father of Boaz, *They hold hands with Boaz who stands*
 Who went on to marry young Ruth. *In front of them. He takes Ruth by hand.*
 So she's in the tree of King Jesus; *Jesus (+ crown) draws out paper dolls chain*
 Read Matthew, you'll see it's the truth. *Boaz points them all to Bible.*

So Rahab's sins may have been scarlet, *Salmon points to her red attire*
 But her faith was living not dead. *She prays and looks up*
 That's why the account of her exploits *Boaz holds up open Bible.*
 In God's Word can still now be read.

THE END

