

# 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*

