

Rahab

Rahab is named by Paul as one of the everlasting heirs

Hebrews 11:31

By faith the harlot Rahab perished not with them that believed not, when she had received the spies with peace.

James 2:25

Likewise also was not Rahab the harlot justified by works, when she had received the messengers, and had sent them out another way

Matthew puts a woman named Rahab in the genealogy of Christ

Matthew 1:4

And Aram begat Aminadab; and Aminadab begat Naasson; and Naasson begat Salmon; 5 And Salmon begat Booz of Rachab; and Booz begat Obed of Ruth; and Obed begat Jesse;

Ruth confirms that Ram, Amminadab, Nahshon, and Salmon

Ruth 4:19

And Hezron begat Ram, and Ram begat Amminadab, 20 And Amminadab begat Nahshon, and Nahshon begat Salmon, 21 And Salmon begat Boaz, and Boaz begat Obed,

Do these men live just before the time of David implying the Rachab of Matthew 5 is a different Rahab than lived in the time of Joshua?

Exodus and Numbers place Amminadab and Nahshon as father and son in the time of Moses and Joshua

Exodus 6:23

And Aaron took him Elisheba, daughter of Amminadab, sister of Naashon, to wife; and she bare him Nadab, and Abihu, Eleazar, and Ithamar.

Numbers 10:14

In the first place went the standard of the camp of the children of Judah according to their armies: and over his host was Nahshon the son of Amminadab.

But what about Salmon? Was he a telescoping father living maybe hundreds of years after Joshua and maybe hundreds of years before Boaz? also implying a different

Rahab?

The only clue is Hosea, Joshua and Psalms which seem to place Shalman/Salmon at the context of Joshua's conquests.

Hosea 10:14

Therefore shall a tumult arise among thy people, and all thy fortresses shall be spoiled, as Shalman spoiled Betharbel in the day of battle: the mother was dashed in pieces upon her children.

Joshua 15:6

And the border went up to Bethhogla, and passed along by the north of Betharabah; and the border went up to the stone of Bohan the son of Reuben:

Psalm 68:14

When the Almighty scattered kings in it, it was white as snow in Salmon.

Salmon is the husband of Rahab from Matthew 1. This strongly suggests the Rachab of Matthew 1 is the Rahab of Joshua at Jericho

Rahab **Ῥαάβ**

Transliteration *Rhaab*

Root Word (Etymology) Of Hebrew origin **רַחַב** (H7343)

Strong's Definitions **Ῥαχάβ** **Rhacháb**, hrakh-ab'; from the same as G4460; Rahab, a Canaanitess.

Only two wives are mentioned in the genealogy of Christ, implying these women are important.

Both Paul and James identify Rahab of Jericho specifically as an important and well known woman.

We might expect if Matthew did not intend to reference the same, he might have said "Rachab, no relation" as is the custom.

Plain reading suggests Matthew, Paul and James refer to the same important woman. Nothing about their husbands, Salmon and Boaz contradict this. It is not impossible for Matthew to have referenced a different important woman without distinguishing.

It is far more likely Matthew simply added the greek letter chi to the Hebrew transliteration of Resh Het Bet not He. Paul and James ignored the Het, probably preferring He because the sound is more familiar to Greek speakers, while Matthew opted for the more Hebrew sounding name.

