

Pastor Gabe Stalnaker (00:00):

Go with me if you would to Hebrews 11. Hebrews 11 will be our text. In a moment you'll see why I ask our brother to read Jonah two for the scripture reading. Hebrews 11. Let's read verses 30 and 31.

(00:36):

By faith, the walls of Jericho fell down after they were compassed about seven days by faith the harlett Rahab perished not with them that believed not when she had received the spies with peace. Now, we recently went through the book of Joshua, the whole book of Joshua where the account of Jericho and Rahab is recorded and this woman, Rahab was a Harlet who lived in the city of Jericho. Her house was built into the wall of the city. The wall was made up of houses and she lived on the wall and she and all of Jericho heard how God was with his people. What was happening, uh, was being noised abroad and she heard that God was with them mightily and that they were coming through and taking all the land and destroying all the cities. God promised them that land for an inheritance. And as we looked at her story, we saw God's mercy to her in sending two spies into Jericho and causing them to end up in her house. They ended up directly in her house and she said to them, I know that you are coming through to destroy the land. Turn with me over to Joshua chapter two,

(02:42):

Joshua chapter two, verse nine. She said, unto the men, I know that the Lord had given you the land and that your terror is fallen upon us and that all the inhabitants of the land faint because of you. 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 unto the two kings of the Amorites that were on the other side, Jordan Sahan and og whom you utterly destroyed. And as soon as we had heard these things, our heart did melt. Neither did there remain any more courage in any man because of you. For the Lord your God, he is God in heaven, above and in earth beneath. She said, I know that you're coming through to destroy this land and I know that you're able to do it.

(03:55):

I know that you're going to do it and the reason is because the Lord your God is God. He is God. And she said to these two men, I am begging you for mercy. I'm begging you to have mercy. Verse 12, she said, now therefore I pray you swear unto me by the Lord since I have showed you kindness, that you will also show kindness unto my father's house and give me a true token and that we you will save alive my father and my mother and my brethren and my sisters and all that they have and deliver our lives from death. Would you spare me and my family? Would you just show mercy to us? Verse 14. And the men answered her our life for yours. If you utter not this our business and it shall be when the Lord have given us the land that we will deal kindly and truly with thee. They said, we swear in a covenant to you.

(05:13):

We are going to destroy this whole city. We're gonna destroy this whole city, but we are going to spare your life and we're gonna spare every life that is with you in this house, every person that's here with you, but they're gonna say in just a minute, every soul that is outside of this house is going to die when we come through. If a soul is outside of this house, their blood is on their own head. In that we see the fact that God has always chosen, he's always put a difference. He's always drawn a line in who he would save and who he would. Damn. He's always put a difference, a particular difference. God's salvation is a particular salvation.

(06:16):

God's salvation is a choosing salvation. It's an on purpose salvation. Every account, as we have gone through Hebrews chapter 11, every account tells us that don't turn back over there, but in ch in verse

four, Hebrews 11, verse four, it talks about Cain and Abel. God chose to save Abel and not Cain. Isn't that right? He put a difference in verse seven. It said, by faith Noah, it's estimated that there were as many people on the earth back then as there are today. God chose to save eight and he put a particular difference. He said, every soul that's inside this ark, isn't that right?

[\(07:09\)](#):

It goes on to say in Hebrews 11, by faith Abraham, Abraham had a son by his own doing Ishmael, God said, I don't choose him, I choose Isaac, the son of promise that I'm gonna give to you in my own time. Isaac had two sons. It says in Hebrews 11, Jacob and Esau, God said, I choose Jacob and I don't choose Esau. It goes on to say, by faith Moses, he led the children of Israel outta bondage. God said, I choose the nation of Israel and I don't choose the nation of Egypt. And he said in Exodus 11, I want everybody to know how that I have put a difference. I want everybody to see that I have put a difference. And that difference is Christ. The difference is Christ. Every soul that is in Christ is going to be saved and every soul that is outside of Christ is going to be damned going to be. That's what Rahab's house represented. Those two spies, two messengers from God, they told her judgment is coming to this place. You tell your family, you tell your loved ones. That's what they told her. And I can't imagine when judgment comes to this place, it's gonna happen in the blink of an eye. It's gonna be a shocking moment. Um, it's gonna happen. It's going to happen. Judgment is coming to this place.

[\(09:07\)](#):

Judgment is coming to this place. The the flesh doesn't believe that. Our flesh does not believe that we hear it. The spirit in there says That's right. The flesh says, ah, not in my lifetime every soul is going to stand back on the earth again. Judgment is coming to this place. They said, you go tell your family, you go tell your loved ones, you tell your loved ones that if they want to live, they must be inside this house. They have to be inside this house. Every soul outside of this house is going to die. Then they gave her a token of promise. They gave her a red rope, a scarlet line. Verse 18 here in Joshua two, it says, behold, when we come into the land, thou shalt bind this line of scarlet thread in the window, which thou it's let us down by.

[\(10:08\)](#):

And thou shalt bring thy father and thy mother and thy brethren and all thy father's household home unto thee. And it shall be that whosoever shall go out of the doors of thy house into the street. His blood shall be upon his head and we will be guiltless and whosoever shall be with thee in the house. His blood shall be on our head if any hand be upon him. And if thou utter this our business, then we will be quit of thine oath, which thou has made us to swear. And she said, according unto your words, so be it. And she sent them away and they departed and she bound the scarlet line in the window. They said, you tie this into your window and on the day of judgment, when that day comes, when we see this scarlet line, we're gonna spare this house. We're gonna tell every soldier in the camp of Israel, if you see that scarlet line, do not touch that house. Don't touch it. That scarlet line represents the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ. God Almighty has said that his judgment is coming, but he said, when I see the blood, I will pass over you.

[\(11:29\)](#):

And if you're in the house of the scarlet line, you're safe. You're safe. And Rahab and her family were safe. Over in chapter six, if you turn to Joshua six, the children of Israel, they came up to the city of Jericho and they marched around that city for seven days and on the seventh day they marched around that city seven times and on the seventh time they shouted with the shout of God and the priest blew the trumpets of God and God gave them the victory over that city. Jerich. Uh, Joshua was six, verse 20 says, so the people shouted when the priest blew with the trumpets and it came to pass when the

people heard the sound of the trumpet and the people shouted with a great shout that the wall fell down flat so that the people went up into the city, every man straight before him, and they took the city. The entire wall of Jericho fell down flat except for one little sliver of wall, Rahab's house.

[\(12:47\)](#):

And it says in verse 21, they utterly destroyed all that was in the city, both man and woman, young and old ox and sheep and ass with the edge of the sword. But Joshua had said unto the two men that had spied out the country, go into the harlot's house and bring out fence, the woman and all that she hath as you swear unto her. And the young men that were spies went in and brought out Rahab and her father and her mother and her brethren and all that she had and they brought out all her kindred and left them without the camp of Israel and they burnt the city with fire and all that was therein only the silver and the gold and the vessels of brass and of iron they put into the treasury of the house of the Lord. And Joshua saved Rahab, the harlett alive in her father's household and all that she had. And she dwelleth in Israel even under this day because she hid the messengers which Joshua sent to spy out Jericho. Now having looked at her story already twice as we were going through Joshua, we looked at it when we were in chapter two. That's where the story begins, and then we looked at it again when we were in chapter six and having already looked at it together twice, I started thinking of the moment after the story ends.

[\(14:20\)](#):

They went in and got her and her family and they took them out of danger's way and they set them in the camp of Israel and there she stands looking at Jericho and the absolute destruction there stands her house, that scarlet line still hanging on it, all the death, all the the judgment of God's wrath down on that place. And she's standing there looking at that thinking salvation is of the Lord, salvation is of the Lord. Every account that we have looked at in Hebrews says the same exact thing every account says. And this one says that all of this happened by faith. It keeps saying by faith, it keeps saying by faith, these people believed something. I mean they were absolutely convinced of something in their heart.

[\(15:35\)](#):

Every single salvation that has been written in this book, every soul that was saved believe something. Every single one of them Rahab believed with all of her heart. The same thing that we believe with all of our hearts, every true salvation that has ever taken place and ever will take place, the one saved is absolutely convinced of something. And nobody said it better than Jonah. Nobody said it better than Jonah. Jonah laid in the belly of a whale at the bottom of the ocean for three days. That's a tough place to be. That's an impossible place to be. And when God finally delivered him to dry land, this is what he cried. Salvation is of the Lord.

[\(16:39\)](#):

Salvation is of the Lord. Ray Hab was convinced that salvation was of the Lord. She still is. It says in verse 25, Joshua saved Rahab, the harlet alive in her father's household and all that she had and she dwelleth in Israel even unto this day. She's right now among spiritual Israel. She is right now in heavenly Israel crying at the top of her lungs. Salvation is of the Lord. It's of the Lord. I want to enter in to the truth of that. I want to enter into what Rahab believes and what Jonah right now believes and what every other child of God believes salvation is of the Lord. It's of the Lord. I want us to see five reasons why salvation is of the Lord. Number one, because he is the architect that drew up the perfect blueprint of it. He created salvation. He authored salvation. It started with him. It started with him. The song says hail, sovereign love. That first began the scheme to rescue fallen man before there was ever even a sinner walking on a created earth. Okay, now this is a statement that's not original to me, but this is good, good.

[\(18:27\)](#):

Before there was ever even a sinner walking on a created earth, God provided a savior before there was ever even a created earth or a sinner standing on it, God provided a savior. Look with me at Revelation 13,

[\(19:11\)](#):

Revelation 13 verse eight says, and all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him whose names are not written in the book of life of the lamb slain from. And the word from translates before the foundation of the world. The wisdom and knowledge of God is wonderful. Before the world had foundations, the world had a lamb slain. Before the world even had foundations, the world had a lamb slain. Isaac asked Abraham, he said, my father, where is the lamb? Abraham said, my son, God will provide himself a lamb. God will provide himself a lamb. What a wonderful and amazing salvation that was fully, completely provided before any of us even knew we needed it. Salvation was always of the Lord. It was there all along waiting for his people. There all, all along Isaiah 40 says, who had directed the spirit of the Lord? It says, with whom took he counsel and who instructed him and taught him in the path of judgment.

[\(20:40\)](#):

The answer's no one. No one. Salvation is of the Lord. It's of the Lord. It did not start with me realizing I need salvation. Would you consider something called salvation? It started with him. Started with him. Salvation is of the Lord. It's of the Lord because he created it. Number two, it's of the Lord because he executed it. He executed salvation. No one helped or took part in the execution of our salvation before God. No one. He executed salvation through his cross alone. Alone. It is recorded in history that Peter died on a cross. That's how the apostle Peter died on a cross. Martyrs died at the stake. They died on crosses. It was not though the blood of Christ and the blood of Peter that saves us. It was not the blood of Christ and the blood of martyrs that saves us. It was the blood of Christ alone. The scripture says he trod the wine press alone. He by himself purged our sins. Not only did he accomplish it alone, it was God only who sent him to accomplish it. Look with me at Acts chapter two.

[\(22:44\)](#):

Acts chapter two, verse 22, you men of Israel hear these words. Jesus of Nazareth, a man approved of God among you by miracles and wonders and signs, which God did by him in the midst of you, as you yourselves also know him being delivered by the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God. You have taken and by wicked hands have crucified in slain the world believes that Christ was done wrong. That's what the world believes. If they, this is what everybody believes. If I was alive back then I would've stopped it. They believed Christ was done wrong. He came to do a good thing. He came to show the way and he was done wrong. That's not what happened. God executed salvation.

[\(23:45\)](#):

He accomplished that salvation alone and God alone sent him to accomplish it. That mob of people laid hold of him. Judas got that mob of people together and they grabbed him and they took him before Pilate and Pilate said, okay, go ahead and crucify him. They had nothing to do with it. They were only carrying out what God determined before to be done. Look at the next chapter, chapter three, verse 18. But those things which God before had showed by the mouth of all his prophets that Christ should suffer. He hath so fulfilled. He did it. He did it. Salvation is of the Lord.

[\(24:37\)](#):

It's of the Lord because number one, God authored it. Number two, God executed it. Number three, God applied it. God applied it. Don't turn. But Ephesians two verse one says, and you ha, he quickened. There comes a point in a believer's life when salvation is applied, the lamb was slain from the foundation

of the world in time. God executed that salvation on the cross and we're born into this world dead in trespasses and sins, totally blind. Wrong error rebels. And all the sudden in his good time, he applies it. And you have he quickened. The word calls us dead. It calls us unwilling. You will not come to me that you might have life. It calls us unable. No man can come to me. It calls us ungodly. It calls us his enemy enmity against him. But this word says, and you have he quickened made alive. He said, I'm gonna make my people willing in the day of my power. All the sudden they're just gonna be willing. He said, God, my father is going to draw them. That's how they're gonna come. And God, my spirit is gonna give them a new godly nature that loves God and serves God and worships God. I'm going to apply this salvation to them. Look at Isaiah 35 with me. This is one of my favorite chapters.

[\(26:39\)](#):

Isaiah 35

[\(26:46\)](#):

Verse three. Strengthen ye the weak hands and confirm the feeble knees. Say to them that are of a fearful heart. Be strong fear, not behold, your God will come with vengeance. Even God with a recompense. He will come and save you. He said, you go tell him that. What that means is you preach the gospel to him. Verse five says, then the eyes of the blind shall be opened and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped. Then shall the lame man leap as a heart and the tongue of the dumb sing for in the wilderness shall waters break out and streams are gonna start flowing in the desert. That's gonna be the response to the gospel. The response in my people, salvation is of the Lord. It's because he created it. He executed it, he applied it. And number four, he sustains it. He sustains it. Charles Spurgeon said, the grace that God gives to his child is daily grace.

[\(28:21\)](#):

He gives us grace for today. And he said, we must have grace for the next day and grace for the next day and grace every day until our days are over. He said, just like the manna that fell, that was God given manna for today. Isn't that right? That manna was for today? It's for today. If they tried to gather enough manna, if they tried to get extra for tomorrow so they wouldn't have to come back, you remember what he said to 'em? Don't try to gather for tomorrow so you won't have to come back. It'll spoil every time.

[\(29:06\)](#):

The only time it didn't, it didn't spoil as if it was on the Sabbath. No work. You don't need to work on the Sabbath. But he said, it's grace for today and God's children don't scoop up grace, get this doctrine of five points and three Rs and get it. Get their mind around election and get their mind around total depravity. And then they take it on and say, well, we are good. We have grace. We got it. Oh, I got it. Yeah, man's totally to pray. I got it. God elected the people. I got it. Christ only died for those people. I got it. God's gonna call 'em. Got it. God's people don't take that grace on and just go on. It's grace for today. And he said, God will keep giving it to his people every single day. All the grace they need fresh daily. Grace, our Lord said after this, man pray ye give us this day our daily bread. Lord, give me the bread I need today. We do call out to him for food, but he said, man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds outta the mouth of God. Lord, give it to me today. He said, blessed are they that hunger and thirst after righteousness.

[\(30:34\)](#):

Salvation is of the Lord that daily saving salvation is of the Lord. And here is God's promise of it. Through his word. He said back, and you can turn or listen. He said in Deuteronomy 33, he's speaking, this is Moses speaking to the children of Israel and it says in Deuteronomy 33, verse 25, thy shoes shall be iron

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and brass. And he said, as thy days, so shall thy strength be as thy days so shall thy strength be. You're gonna be taken care of every day for the rest of your life. You're gonna be kept by the power of God. The apostle Paul said, he that has begun a good work in you will perform it every day until the day of Jesus Christ. So salvation is of the Lord because he started it. It's of the Lord because he executed it. It's of the Lord because he applied it. It's of the Lord because he sustains it and it's of the Lord because he will ultimately finally perfect it. Now see if you can enter into this.

[\(31:51\)](#):

He's gonna ultimately finally perfect it. Charles Spurgeon said this was in our bulletin either last week or a couple of weeks ago. This is just, this is so good. This is so comforting. He said, I do verily believe that if it should ever be my lot to put my foot upon the golden threshold of paradise and put this thumb upon the purley latch, I should never cross the threshold unless I had grace given me to take that last step whereby I might enter heaven. What he's saying is, salvation is so of the Lord. It is so of the Lord. It is so start to finish of the Lord. He said, if I had my foot on the threshold and my thumb on the latch of the gates of heaven itself, I would never enter in. I would never take that last step except for the grace of God pulling me in, opening the door, pulling me in, and ultimately perfecting my eternal salvation. That's how of the Lord. It is. That's how of the Lord. It is the song amazing. Grace says, was grace that brought me safe thus far and Grace will leave me home all the way home. We'll close with Revelation 19.

[\(34:07\)](#):

Revelation 19 verse one.

[\(34:12\)](#):

It says, and after these things I heard a great voice of much people in heaven saying, hallelujah. Praise the Lord. Praise the Lord. Everybody. He said, I heard much people in heaven. All of 'em were saying, praise the Lord. Praise the Lord saying, hallelujah, salvation and glory and honor and power unto the Lord our God. Every soul there rahab right now, Jonah right now. And I pray, I pray you and I also, Lord, keep us. Keep us. Don't let us go. Don't let us go between now and then. We're crying. Salvation is of the Lord. I pray all of us in that great day, every soul there is gonna cry at the top of his lungs. We are what we are by the grace of God. Every soul there. It's by the grace of God. Salvation is of the Lord. It is of the Lord. Start to finish Alpha two Omega. It is 100% of the Lord. Amen. Let's all stand together.