**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 *Rahab steps forward.*

Who lived in the town Jericho. *Holds up Jericho Times with headline “Wall*

Now Rahab was not a good woman *Street crash predicted”*

Men paid her three shekels a go. *Man steps forward, pays and goes off with Rahab[Stage Right]*

When Josh’a arrived at the Jordan *Joshua steps forward*

He picked out two sensible guys; *Selects 2 spies from group*

These two were sent out on a mission. *Joshua points and gives 2 cards*

Hand-picked to go forward as spies. *They hold up cards “I-spy”[Joshua moves stage left. Spies down steps]*

They stayed in the house of our Rahab *Enter Rahab to meet spies as they return*

They lodged with her inside the city. *On centre stage.They ‘enter her home’*

But their cover was rapidly blown; *Citizens [below steps]arrive. Look menacing*

For them things were not looking pretty. *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*