

2 1 Yehoshua son of Nun had sent two men as spies from Shitim, in secret: “Go forth and survey the land and the region of Yeriho.” So the men had set out, arriving at the house of a harlot named Raḥav, where they lay down for the

1 | See Numbers, chapter 32.

תִּצְוֶנוּ יוֹמֵת רַק חֹזֵק וְאַמֵּץ:

ב א וַיִּשְׁלַח יְהוֹשֻׁעַ בֵּין-נְוֹן מִן-הַשְּׁטִיִּים שְׁנַיִם אַנְשִׁים מִרְגְּלִים חָרָשׁ לְאֹמֶר
לָכֹו רְאוּ אֶת-הָאָרֶץ וְאֶת-יְרִיחוֹ וְיָלְכוּ וַיִּבְנוּ בַּיִת אִשָּׁה זֹנָה וַיִּשְׁמָה

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2 night. And word reached the king of Yeriho: "Listen, people have come here
3 tonight – Israelites – to probe the land." The king of Yeriho sent word to
Rahav: "Bring out those men who came to you, who arrived at your house,
4 for they have come to probe the land." Now, the woman had taken the two
men and hidden them, and she replied, "Yes, men came to me, but I did not
5 know where they were from. Just as the gate was being closed at nightfall, the
men left, and I do not know where they went. Go after them quickly, for you
6 can overtake them." She had taken the spies up to the roof and hidden them
7 amongst the stalks of flax she had laid out on the roof. The king's men ran
after them toward the Jordan route, over the river fords; and the moment the
8 pursuers left, the gate was closed behind them. They were not yet asleep when
9 she went up to them on the roof. "I know that the LORD has given you the
land," she said to the men, "and that dread of you has fallen upon us; for all
10 the inhabitants of the land quake before you. For we have heard that the LORD
dried up the waters of the Sea of Reeds before you when you left Egypt, and
we have heard what you did to the two Amorite kings across the Jordan – how
11 you utterly destroyed Sihon and Og. We heard it and our hearts dissolved;
no one has the spirit to face you, for the LORD your God is God of heaven
12 above and earth below. Now, please swear to me by the LORD – for I have
shown you loyalty – that you, too, will be loyal to my father's house. Give me
13 a true sign that you will spare my father and mother and my brothers and
14 sisters and all that is theirs. Please, save our souls from death!" The men
replied to her, "We pledge to die in your place, if you speak no word of this,
15 and when the LORD gives us the land, we will show you true loyalty." She let
them down by a rope through the window, for her house was built into the
16 city wall; she lived inside the wall. "Flee toward the hills," she said to them,
"lest the pursuers run into you. Hide there for three days until the pursuers
17 have returned; only then be on your way." They said to her, "We will be free
18 of this oath you have sworn us to unless, when we come back to the land, you
tie this scarlet thread in the window you let us down from. Bring your father,
your mother, your siblings, and all your father's household into your home.
19 If anyone ventures outside the doors of your house, his blood will be upon
his own head – we will be free of blame – while if a hand is laid on anyone
20 who remains in the house with you, his blood shall be upon ours. But if you
21 speak a word of this, we shall be free of the oath we swore to you." "As you
say, so be it," she said, and she sent them away. They left, and she tied the
22 scarlet thread in the window. They set out and arrived at the hills. They stayed
there for three days until the pursuers turned back, for the pursuers had

ב רָחַב וַיִּשְׁכְּבוּ־שָׁמָּה: וַיֹּאמֶר לְמַלְךְ יְרִיחוֹ לֵאמֹר הִנֵּה אַנְשֵׁים בָּאוּ
 ג הִנֵּה הַלַּיְלָה מִבְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל לַחֲפֹר אֶת־הָאָרֶץ: וַיִּשְׁלַח מֶלֶךְ יְרִיחוֹ
 אֶל־רָחַב לֵאמֹר הֲוָצִיֵּאִי הָאֲנָשִׁים הַבָּאִים אֵלֶיךָ אֲשֶׁר־בָּאוּ לְבִיתְךָ
 ד כִּי לַחֲפֹר אֶת־כָּל־הָאָרֶץ בָּאוּ: וּתְקַח הָאִשָּׁה אֶת־שְׁנֵי הָאֲנָשִׁים
 ה וּתְצַפְנֵנּוּ וּתְאָמַר כִּן בָּאוּ אֵלַי הָאֲנָשִׁים וְלֹא יָדַעְתִּי מֵאִיִן הֵמָּה: וַיְהִי
 ו הַשָּׁעַר לִסְגֹר בַּחֹשֶׁךְ וְהָאֲנָשִׁים יָצְאוּ לֹא יָדַעְתִּי אָנָּה הִלְכוּ הָאֲנָשִׁים
 ו רַדְפוּ מֵהָר אַחֲרֵיהֶם כִּי תִשְׁיָגוּם: וְהִיא הֶעֱלֵתָם הִגָּה וּתְטַמְנֵם בַּפְּשָׁתַי
 ז הָעֵץ הָעֲרֻכּוֹת לֵה עַל־הַגָּג: וְהָאֲנָשִׁים רַדְפוּ אַחֲרֵיהֶם דֶּרֶךְ הַיַּרְדֵּן
 ח עַל הַמַּעְבְּרוֹת וְהַשָּׁעַר סָגְרוּ אַחֲרָי פֶּאֶשֶׁר יָצְאוּ הַרְדָּפִים אַחֲרֵיהֶם:
 ט וְהִמָּה טָרַם יִשְׁכְּבוּן וְהִיא עָלְתָה עֲלֵיהֶם עַל־הַגָּג: וּתְאָמַר אֶל־
 י הָאֲנָשִׁים יָדַעְתִּי כִּי־נָתַן יְהוָה לָכֶם אֶת־הָאָרֶץ וְכִי־נִפְלָה אִימַתְכֶם
 יא עָלֵינוּ וְכִי נִמְגֹו כָּל־יֹשְׁבֵי הָאָרֶץ מִפְּנֵיכֶם: כִּי שָׁמַעְנוּ אֶת אֲשֶׁר־הוֹבִישׁ
 יב יְהוָה אֶת־מִי יַס־סוּף מִפְּנֵיכֶם בְּצִאתְכֶם מִמִּצְרַיִם וְאֲשֶׁר עָשִׂיתֶם
 יג לְשְׁנֵי מַלְכֵי הָאֱמֹרִי אֲשֶׁר בְּעֵבֶר הַיַּרְדֵּן לְסִיחֹן וְלַעֹג אֲשֶׁר הִחְרַמְתֶּם
 יד אוֹתָם: וְנִשְׁמַע וַיִּמָּס לְבַבְנוּ וְלֹא־קָמָה עוֹד רוּחַ בְּאִישׁ מִפְּנֵיכֶם כִּי
 טו יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵיכֶם הוּא אֱלֹהִים בְּשָׁמַיִם מִמַּעַל וְעַל־הָאָרֶץ מִתַּחַת:
 טז וְעַתָּה הַשְּׁבַע־נָא לִי בִיהוָה כִּי־עָשִׂיתִי עִמָּכֶם חֶסֶד וְעָשִׂיתֶם גַּם־
 טז אִתָּם עִם־בֵּית אָבִי חֶסֶד וְנָתַתֶּם לִי אוֹת אֱמֶת: וְהִחִיתֶם אֶת־אָבִי
 יז וְאֶת־אִמִּי וְאֶת־אֲחִי וְאֶת־אֲחוֹתִי וְאֶת כָּל־אֲשֶׁר לָהֶם וְהִצַּלְתֶּם אֶת־
 יח נַפְשֹׁתֵינוּ מִמּוֹת: וַיֹּאמְרוּ לָהּ הָאֲנָשִׁים נַפְשֵׁנוּ תַחְתִּיכֶם לָמוֹת אִם לֹא
 יט תִּגִּידוּ אֶת־דְּבָרֵנוּ זֶה וְהָיָה בְּתַת־יְהוָה לָנוּ אֶת־הָאָרֶץ וְעָשִׂינוּ עִמָּךְ
 כ חֶסֶד וְאֱמֶת: וּתוֹרַדְסָ בַּחֲבַל בְּעַד הַחֲלוּן כִּי בֵיתָה בְּקִיר הַחֹמָה
 כא וּבַחֹמָה הִיא יוֹשְׁבַת: וּתְאָמַר לָהֶם הִרְרָה לָכֶם פֶּן־יִפְגְּעוּ בָכֶם הַרְדָּפִים
 כב וְנַחֲבַתֶּם שָׁמָּה שְׁלֹשֶׁת יָמִים עַד שׁוּב הַרְדָּפִים וְאַחַר תִּלְכוּ לְדַרְכְּכֶם:
 כג וַיֹּאמְרוּ אֵלֶיהָ הָאֲנָשִׁים נְקִים אֲנַחְנוּ מִשְׁבַּעְתְּךָ הַזֶּה אֲשֶׁר הַשְּׁבַעְתָּנוּ:
 כד הִנֵּה אֲנַחְנוּ בָּאִים בָּאָרֶץ אֶת־תְּקוּת חוּט הַשֶּׁנִּי הַזֶּה תִּקְשְׁרֵי בַּחֲלוּן
 כה אֲשֶׁר הוֹרַדְתָּנוּ בּוֹ וְאֶת־אָבִיךָ וְאֶת־אִמְךָ וְאֶת־אֲחִיךָ וְאֶת כָּל־בֵּית
 כו אָבִיךָ תֵּאֲסֹפֵי אֵלֶיךָ הַבַּיְתָה: וְהָיָה כֹּל אֲשֶׁר־יָצָא מִדְּלַתִּי בֵיתְךָ ו
 כז הַחוּצָה דָּמוּ בְּרֹאשׁוֹ וְאֲנַחְנוּ נְקִים וְכֹל אֲשֶׁר יְהִיָּה אִתְּךָ בַּבַּיִת דָּמוּ
 כח בְּרֹאשׁוֹ אִם־יָד תִּהְיֶה־בּוֹ: וְאִם־תִּגִּידֵי אֶת־דְּבָרֵנוּ זֶה וְהָיִינוּ נְקִים
 כט מִשְׁבַּעְתְּךָ אֲשֶׁר הַשְּׁבַעְתָּנוּ: וּתְאָמַר כְּדַבְּרֵיכֶם כִּן־הוּא וְתִשְׁלַחֶם
 ס וַיִּלְכוּ וַתִּקְשֹׁר אֶת־תְּקוּת הַשֶּׁנִּי בַּחֲלוּן: וַיִּלְכוּ וַיָּבֹאוּ הִרְרָה וַיִּשְׁבוּ

אֲחִיוֹתַי

- 23 searched the entire route but failed to find them. The two men then went back, descended the hills, and crossed over. They came to Yehoshua son of
- 24 Nun and reported all that had befallen them. “The LORD has delivered the whole land into our hands,” they said to Yehoshua, “and what is more, all the people of the land quake before us.”

שָׁם שְׁלֹשֶׁת יָמִים עַד-שָׁבוּ הָרְדָפִים וַיִּבְקְשׂוּ הָרְדָפִים בְּכָל-הַדָּרֶךְ
וְלֹא מָצְאוּ: וַיָּשָׁבוּ שְׁנֵי הָאֲנָשִׁים וַיֵּרְדּוּ מֵהָהָר וַיַּעֲבְדוּ וַיָּבֹאוּ אֶל-
יְהוֹשֻׁעַ בֶּן-נֹון וַיִּסְפְּרוּ-לוֹ אֵת כָּל-הַמַּצָּאוֹת אֹתָם: וַיֹּאמְרוּ אֶל-
יְהוֹשֻׁעַ כִּי-נָתַן יְהוָה בְּיַדְּנוּ אֶת-כָּל-הָאָרֶץ וְגַם-נִמְגְּו כָּל-יֹשְׁבֵי הָאָרֶץ
מִפְּנֵינוּ: