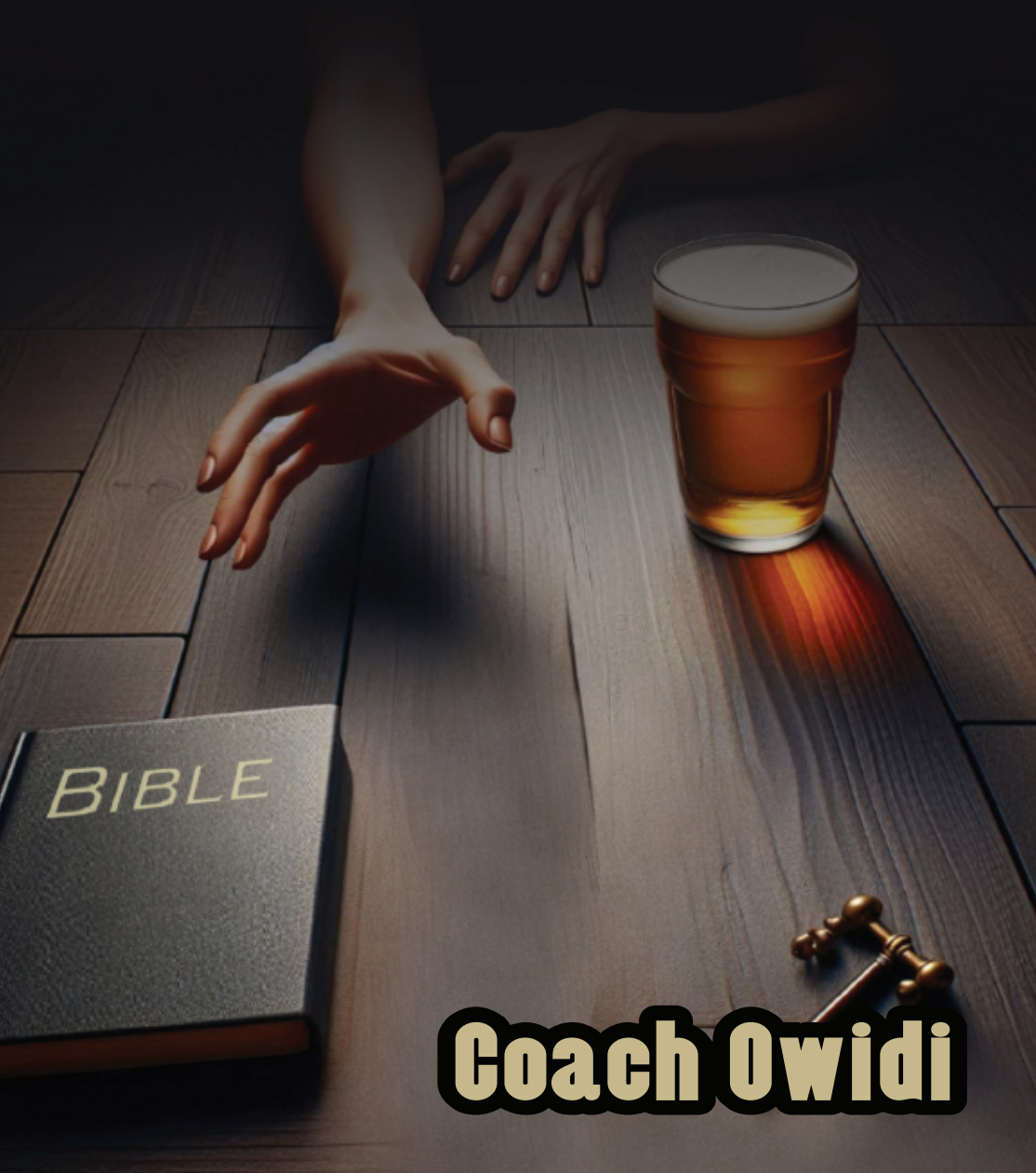


Rahab: Harlot to Heroine



Coach Owidi

Rahab

From Harlot to Heroin

*When Grace Rewrites the Story,
Everything Changes*

By Coach Charles Owidi



The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom
(Proverbs 9:10)

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Disclaimer

This article is not a defense of prostitution as a practice, but a call to see the people trapped in it through the eyes of Christ. Prostitution is a serious sin—one that deeply affects the body, mind, and spirit. As the Apostle Paul reminds us, “Flee from sexual immorality... he who sins sexually sins against his own body” (1 Corinthians 6:18). This is not a sin to be taken lightly, nor is it one to be ignored.

However, while we do not condone the sin, we are called to love the sinner. Jesus Himself extended grace to the woman caught in adultery, saying, “Neither do I condemn you... go, and sin no more” (John 8:11). His heart was to restore, not reject.

The purpose of this writing is to advocate for the restoration of dignity and hope for those entangled in

prostitution. It is a call to recognize their humanity and to believe in the power of transformation through Jesus Christ. “The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit” (Psalm 34:18).

If you know a friend, relative, classmate, or neighbor who may be affected, I prayerfully urge you to purchase a copy of this book and gift it to them. Let it be a seed of encouragement and a tool for empowerment.

And to you who may be reading this and are currently involved in prostitution—I write to you with compassion, not judgment. There is a way out. There is freedom in Christ. “Come now, let us reason together,” says the Lord. “Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow” (Isaiah 1:18).

Allow us to walk with you toward healing and restoration. There is hope, and you are not alone.

May you be moved with mercy, and may the love of Christ compel you to act.

Introduction

"She was judged by men but chosen by God. Labeled by her past but rewritten by grace. Rahab's story is not just about redemption — it's a mirror to ours: proof that one 'yes' can turn shame into legacy, brothels into bloodlines, and broken people into builders of purpose. This is the power of grace that redefines, reclaims, and resurrects."

She was judged by men but chosen by God.

Labeled by her past, but rewritten by grace.

Rahab's story isn't just about redemption — it's a mirror to ours.

It's proof that one *yes* to God can turn shame into legacy, brothels into bloodlines, and broken people into builders of purpose. This is the power of grace: it redefines, reclaims, and resurrects.

There is a grace in Rahab's story that is both *uncomfortable* and *beautiful*.

Uncomfortable—because it confronts our human tendency to rank sins, to decide who is “too far gone.” Beautiful—because it reveals a God who sees beyond the dirt, beyond the labels, and speaks destiny into places we would have discarded.

We live in a culture where *some sins are spotlighted*, and others are *strategically hidden*.

Where prostitution is shunned, but lust is streamed. Where people are disqualified by their reputation, even as others quietly destroy themselves behind polished smiles. But here's the truth:

We've all been Rahab.

We've all needed a Redeemer.

And Rahab? She wasn't just rescued.

She was *welcomed in*.

She married **Salmon**, a man from the tribe of Judah—**royalty**.

Her womb, once judged as unclean, gave birth to **Boaz**, a man of honor, grace, and legacy.

And generations later... came **Jesus**—the King of all kings.

Here's what shook me to the core:

Rahab didn't just *walk away* from her past.

She walked into a divine *covenant*.

She became **family**—bloodline.

And in the same way, you and I—regardless of our brokenness—have been **married into royalty** through Christ.

Jesus didn't just forgive you — He chose you.

He didn't just cleanse your sins — He *proposed*.

He called you His Bride.

And in His death, He gave you **an eternal inheritance**.

Just like Rahab married into nobility and birthed a royal line, so too have we—through the blood of Jesus—been grafted into a **royal priesthood, a holy nation**.

Our inheritance is not based on our past, but on His finished work.

He laid down His life not just to rescue us from hell, but to raise us to a throne beside Him.

We don't just wear white because we're pure.

We wear white because **He paid for our wedding garment in red.**

This is the part of Rahab's story that undid me:

She was once a harlot.

But through faith, she became a *mother of kings*.

And if faith made her royal—then **faith is the bloodline to royalty.**

Not family name. Not background. Not perfection.
Just faith.

I grew up in a culture where prostitution was taboo—rarely spoken about, always judged.

But immorality? It hid in plain sight.

Affairs were whispered, lust was normalized, shame was buried beneath religion. And yet I remember one man who, upon seeing a prostitute, burned with rage and said she deserved to be beaten.

But then I look at **Jesus**.

Jesus knelt before the woman caught in adultery.

Jesus let the “unclean” woman anoint His feet.

Jesus didn’t flinch.

He loved, restored, and lifted.

“Go, and sin no more,”

He said – not to shame her, but to awaken her.

I’ve learned over time that what most women – and men – need is not *our judgment*, but a *safe place* to break, heal, and discover they’re still loved by God.

They need someone to tell them, “You can walk a different road – and you’re still worthy of it.”

Rahab needed that.

So do we.

Paul said, “to the weak, I became weak,” because he knew: Healing happens not through pride, but through proximity.

Jesus didn't save us from a distance. He stepped in.
He took our sin. Our shame. Our scars.

So who are we to judge someone else's process?

This book is not just about Rahab.

It's about *you*.

It's about every person you've judged — and every person
who's judged you.

It's about a grace so deep, it reaches into generational
darkness and brings out **royal light**.

It's about the kind of repentance that doesn't just change a
moment — but births movements.

It's about how God takes a broken "yes"... and turns it
into **legacy**.

**"Your repentance today is the root of someone else's
royal destiny tomorrow."**

So before you count yourself out...

Before you write someone else off...

Remember Rahab.

And remember that the Bride of Christ is still being built—one messy, blood-covered, grace-drenched story at a time.

Preface

This booklet was born from a place of reflection, compassion, and a deep yearning to see people the way God sees them — not by the labels society places on them, but by the potential they carry in the hands of a redeeming God. It is my humble attempt to spark conversations, challenge perspectives, and break the walls of judgment that we, knowingly or unknowingly, build around others.

In my own journey, I have wrestled with questions that many were too afraid to ask out loud. I grew up in a culture where certain topics were taboo — prostitution being one of them. We were taught to avoid, condemn, and shame, but never to understand. I saw the hypocrisy of a society that turned a blind eye to hidden sin, while shaming those whose brokenness was just more visible.

And yet, when I looked into Scripture, I saw something radical: a holy God who embraced the broken, touched the unclean, sat with sinners, and dignified the outcast. Jesus' response to the woman caught in adultery changed everything for me. He didn't shame her; He set her free.

Rahab's story, in particular, gripped my heart. A woman with a label — “prostitute” — who would have been dismissed by many in our communities today. Yet, God saw something more. She was courageous, wise, and full of faith. And because of that, she became part of the lineage of Jesus Christ Himself. What a profound reminder that **our past does not disqualify us from God's purpose.**

This message is for every person who has ever felt written off, misunderstood, or disqualified by people. And it's also for every believer who desires to walk in the mercy, truth, and compassion of Christ. The church is called to be a hospital for the broken, not a courtroom for the condemned.

Acknowledgments

I would like to extend my deepest gratitude to:

- **God**, the Author of all redemption stories. Without His grace, I would have no words to write and no testimony to share. He has taught me that no one is too far gone for His love to reach.
- **My family and mentors**, who have shaped my understanding of grace and truth, and who continue to walk this journey of faith with me. Your wisdom, prayers, and patience mean more than I can say.
- **Those who've shared their stories with me** – women and men who have walked through rejection, pain, and shame, and yet have found healing and identity in Christ. You are the inspiration behind these pages. Your courage is sacred.

- **My church family and friends**, who continually challenge me to live out this message of grace with boldness and humility. Thank you for holding me accountable to love without limits.
- And finally, **you, the reader**. Thank you for opening your heart to this message. Whether you're reading from a place of pain, curiosity, or conviction, my prayer is that these pages remind you that you are seen, known, and loved by God — no matter your past.

May this booklet spark not only change in our hearts but also a movement of grace in our homes, churches, and communities.

With love and honor,

None of us deserves Jesus. Not even the "holiest" among us. And yet, **He draws near**, not to applaud our sin, but to redeem our story.

The people we look down on today may very well be the ones God is preparing to use tomorrow.

Chapter 1

The God Who Sees Differently

“People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.” – 1 Samuel 16:7 (NIV)

We live in a world that judges quickly — by appearance, by background, by titles, by how polished someone seems. We’ve grown up in systems, cultures, and communities that measure worth by reputation, family name, social standing, or outward performance. But God sees differently.

He sees the heart.

He always has.

When Samuel was sent by God to anoint a new king from the house of Jesse, he did what most of us would do — he looked at the obvious. Eliab, the firstborn, tall and strong, seemed to have king written all over him. But God stopped Samuel with a lesson that echoes through generations:

“Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The Lord does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.” (1 Samuel 16:7)

And so, God chose David, a young shepherd boy, probably not formally educated, perhaps overlooked in his own household, but full of heart, wisdom, courage, and worship. The least expected, yet God’s first choice.

From Murderer to Messenger:

Like Rahab the harlot, Paul the persecutor was also marked by a shameful past. He was no ordinary sinner — Paul proudly hunted down the early followers of Christ.

He was, in his own words, “*the worst of sinners*” (1 Timothy 1:15). Yet, it is this very man God chose to become the loudest voice in building the early Church.

Imagine it: the man who once dragged believers to prison, now writing letters that would one day comfort generations. The same hands that carried arrest warrants now lifted in prayer. The same voice that threatened became the one declaring “**For when I am weak, then I am strong.**” (2 Corinthians 12:10)

Paul never forgot where he came from — and that’s exactly why grace shone so brightly through him. His weakness didn’t disqualify him; it became the stage for God’s glory to glow.

Because when God rewrites a story, He doesn’t erase the pain — He transforms it into purpose.

I must confess, as a leader, I have made my fair share of mistakes. I’ve followed the crowd, I’ve gone with what seemed logical, I’ve chosen based on appearance or public opinion. And many times, I’ve lived to regret it.

Disaster often humbles us and brings us back to the feet of God to ask: **“Lord, what do You see that I don't?”**

If we are honest, many of us would never choose someone like Rahab. A prostitute. A Gentile. A woman with a past. Not a likely candidate for a move of God — at least not by religious standards.

Yet God saw differently.

Rahab may have been known for her profession, but God saw her faith, her bravery, her heart to protect God's people. While others saw a harlot, heaven saw a heroine. And that one act of faith placed her not just in the pages of Scripture — but in the **lineage of the Messiah**.

What kind of God writes a prostitute into the genealogy of Jesus?

A God who sees differently.

A God who looks beyond the shame and sees a story worth redeeming. A God who uses the rejected to rewrite redemption. A God who is not embarrassed by your past, but is more interested in your future.

Questions That Wreck the Norm

Why would God choose someone with such a background to be an ancestor of Jesus — the Savior of the universe?

What qualities does God look for in those He chooses?

Is it possible that the things we disqualify people for are the very things God uses to reveal His glory?

And could it be that in our religious blindness, we overlook the very people through whom God wants to speak?

Not What We Deserve, But What Grace Provides — A Daily Lens for the Weak

The truth is, if we were only given what we *deserve*, none of us could ever stand before a holy God.

Not Rahab. Not you. Not me. The Scriptures make this clear: “*All our righteous acts are like filthy rags*” (Isaiah 64:6). Even our best days fall short of His holiness. So, grace isn’t something we earn — it’s something we receive. And that’s what makes it so radical.

Grace is what steps into the brothel and calls out a future.

Grace is what sits beside the addict and whispers, “There’s more for you.”

Grace is what finds the angry, bitter heart and softens it with love.

Grace is what sees the gossip, the liar, the lukewarm believer — and still chooses them.

Most of us wouldn’t have chosen Rahab. She didn’t fit the mold. She didn’t look like a “church lady.” But grace doesn’t look for perfection — it looks for *faith*. And Rahab had enough of it to change not only her story but her legacy.

In everyday life, grace shows up in places we least expect:

- When a teacher gives a second chance to a failing student.

- When a parent embraces a wayward child instead of disowning them.
- When we choose to pray for the one who hurt us instead of seeking revenge.
- When we sit down with the broken and actually *listen* instead of offering quick fixes or empty clichés.

The gospel doesn't just change the story of a prostitute in Jericho — it transforms how we see ourselves and how we treat others. It reminds us that:

- **The one society ignores might be the one God is raising up.**
- **The one who stumbles today might be the preacher of tomorrow.**
- **The one caught in a web of shame might birth a movement of healing.**

So, we must stop defining people by their lowest moments. Stop treating grace like it's exclusive or reserved for the "church-approved." The reality is, most of us are just one honest moment away from being exposed, and one act of grace away from being restored.

Every day, we walk past modern-day Rahabs, the misjudged, the misunderstood, the mislabeled. Some live on the streets, some sit beside you in church.

The challenge is not to fix them but to *see* them. To treat them not according to what they “deserve,” but according to what grace can *provide*.

Because that’s exactly what Jesus did for us.

The Invitation

Let this be the chapter where we begin to surrender our opinions, our biases, and even our sense of spiritual superiority. Let this be the place where we stop asking “*What do people think?*” and start asking “*God, what do You see?*”

Because when we see like God sees, we won’t just find redemption in unexpected places — we’ll also find purpose, beauty, and destiny in the people we were taught to ignore.

May we become a generation that sees differently.

Not with eyes trained to judge, but with eyes trained to hope.

Not through filters of performance or reputation, but through the lens of redemption.

Like Jesus.

Who saw fishermen and called them leaders.

Who saw a tax collector and pulled up a chair.

Who saw a woman caught in sin and offered her dignity, not disgrace.

He didn't flinch at brokenness — He leaned in. He looked past the mess and saw the mission.

Like grace.

Grace doesn't scan for resumes or religious credentials.

It looks for the willing, the available, the humble.

Grace doesn't measure who's worthy — it makes people *new*.

It trades labels for legacy.

It calls out destiny in the least likely places.

Like love.

Real love — the Jesus kind — isn't soft, but strong.

It confronts lies with truth.

It pursues the lost with persistence.

It doesn't recoil at weakness — it draws near and lifts up.

It isn't afraid to get its hands dirty in the mess of someone else's story.

So, may we be that kind of people.

May we stop seeing others as they are and start seeing them as they *could be*.

May we look beyond the surface and speak life into dry bones.

May we let go of small, safe love and take hold of the wild, redemptive love of God.

Because the world doesn't need more critics.

It needs more carriers of compassion.

More people are willing to believe in the work God can do through anyone — yes, *anyone* — who says yes.

Let's be the generation that sees not what's deserved, but what grace provides.

The kind that builds bridges, not barriers.

That calls out purpose, not just problems.

That reaches down like Jesus, lifts up like grace, and loves like it's the only thing that can truly change the world.

Because it is.

Not What We Deserve, But What Grace Provides

The truth is, none of us deserve to stand near Jesus — let alone be used by Him. Scripture doesn't flatter us; it tells us plainly:

"All our righteous acts are like filthy rags" (Isaiah 64:6).
If grace were earned, we'd all be bankrupt.

But grace was never about deserving.

It was about **Jesus** — about what *He* offers, not what we bring.

He didn't die for the polished or the perfect.

He died for the broken, the outcast, the sinner.

Just like Rahab.

Just like me.

Just like you.

And this changes everything.

It humbles our pride.

It silences our self-righteousness.

It opens our eyes to see again —

To see people not as they are, but as they *could be* in the hands of a gracious God.

So may we become a generation that sees differently.

Like Jesus.

Who looked beyond people's past and called out their future.

Like grace.

That reaches into the margins and says, "You still belong."

Like love.

That doesn't keep score, doesn't walk away, and never gives up.

Let us see the potential in the addict.

The calling in the failure.

The treasure in the overlooked.

Let us believe that no story is too messy, no soul too far gone.

Because the world doesn't need more judges.

It needs more *Jesus-people*.

People who see with mercy, speak with truth, and love with holy fire.

Let us be those people.

Let us build that kind of Church.

Let us carry that kind of grace.

Not what we deserve.

But what grace provides.

Chapter 2

Jericho's Outcast, Heaven's Chosen

"But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong." - 1 Corinthians 1:27 (NIV)

In the grand city of Jericho, where walls stood tall and pride even taller, there was one house that people talked about – but not with honor. That house sat along the city wall, a strategic location for travelers, merchants, and spies alike. It belonged to a woman whose name evoked whispers and shame.

Her name was Rahab.

She was a prostitute. In the eyes of her neighbors, she was unclean, used, disqualified, and maybe even cursed. People

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Rahab: Harlot to Heroine

Rahab was a pivotal figure in the bible. Initially a prostitute, she demonstrates extraordinary faith and courage by hiding two Israelite spies sent by Joshua. Defying her own people and risking her life, she declares her belief in the God of Israel, recognizing His power and the impending victory of His people. In exchange for her protection, the spies promise safety for her and her family during the Israelite invasion of Jericho.



coach owidi is a seasoned life coach with 15 years experience guiding people through their life and relationship journeys. He strives to equip people with the tools, insights needed to build healthy, lasting relationships and live a more fulfilling life.



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