



Old Testament Heroes

**Ruth
Deborah
Hannah
Esther
Rahab
Moses
Joseph**

Ruth



My Mother-in-law was Naomi...
When Naomi returned to Israel, I left my
country Moab and went with her because I
loved Naomi and the God of Israel.

Whither thou goest, I will go.
Whither thou lodgest, there will I lodge.
Thy people shall be my people now.
Where you go I will go.

Entreat me not to leave you,
and return again to my father's house,
For the God that watches over all
has commanded me to stay.

And where thou diest, I will die,
and with thy people be laid to rest,
For I know the God that abides with you
Will ever with me stay.

I married Boaz and I became the Great-
Grandmother of King David.

Who Am I?

Deborah



Audrey



My name means
"honey bee."



I was a
Judge in
Israel.
My court
room was
under a
palm tree.
People in
Israel
came to
me for
advice.

God told me to tell General Barak to fight our enemy Sisera. The enemy had 900 iron chariots and had oppressed Israel for 20 years.

Barak would not go unless I went with him as his co-captain. So we went together with 10,000 men.

The only weapons our men had were sticks and stones...

But God was with us!

Can you imagine the conversation Barak and I had waiting for God's instructions? It went something like this ...

"What are we supposed to do?"

"I don't know, I'm waiting for God to tell me."

"You're waiting for what?"

"God will tell us what to do and when to do it."

"Well, what's the signal for us to start fighting?"

"I'll shout "GO!"

"Then what do we do?"

"I imagine you're supposed to chase after the enemy."

"But they're chasing after us, how can we chase after them?"

"I don't know, but your job is to chase the enemy when I tell you to go."

"O.K., but I hope you and God know what you're doing!"

What happened next?

God sent a big thunder storm. The rain came down so fast and hard that it caused a flash flood.

Sisera and his army of chariots tried to escape but got caught in the mud.

I cried, "GO!"

Then Barak's men ran down the mountain and attacked the army of Sisera.

Then Barak's men ran down the mountain and attacked the army of Sisera.

Sisera's army was destroyed that day, and Israel was no longer in bondage to their enemies.

God had shown who was really in control!

God did something only He could do!

Who Am I?

Hannah



Summer

I was very sad ... Everyone else had children except me. So I prayed to God for a baby and God gave me a son.

I called his name Samuel, which means,
Because I have asked for him from God.

When Samuel was old enough I took him to live with Eli the priest. He helped Eli in God's service.

God had answered my prayer and I wanted to thank him.

I only saw Samuel once a year. I brought Samuel a new coat that I made for him each time I visited him.

Who Am I?



Esther



Estera

My name means "star."

I was a Jewish orphan living in Persia. My relative Mordecai adopted me.

One day the King of Persia needed a wife. They had a beauty contest. The winner would become the queen.

Mordecai entered me into the contest and I won! I was the most beautiful woman in the whole empire...from India to Ethiopia!



King Ahasuerus put a crown on my head and I became his queen. No one in the palace knew I was Jewish.

Haman was a very angry man because Mordecai would not bow down to him. One day Mordecai heard that Haman wanted to kill all the Jews in the empire because Mordecai was Jewish.

Mordecai told me that I should try to save the Jewish people and that is why God had arranged for me to be the queen.

But I had not been called into the King's presence for 30 days. If anyone came to the King's throne uncalled for, they could be put to death ... unless the King raised his scepter to accept them.

I was afraid...what if the King didn't raise his scepter to me? I asked Mordecai to have all the Jews fast and pray for 3 days for me. Then I would go to talk to the King. I said...

If I perish, Let me perish...I'm going to meet the king...
If I perish, Let me perish...I'm going to meet the king...
When I entered the throne room, the King raised his scepter and I touched it.



The King was very happy to see me. He asked what he could do for me. He said he'd give me anything I wanted!

So I invited the King and Haman for dinner. At dinner, the King again asked what he could do for me. I invited the King and Haman to come the next day for another dinner. Haman thought he was going to receive a promotion!

The next day at dinner, the King asked me again. I finally said, "I am Jewish. Please do not kill me and my people." The King was so angry when he learned that Haman had tricked him that he had Haman hung that very same day.

Since the King's rules could not be changed, all the Jews were warned. They were allowed to protect themselves from the soldiers so that they were not killed.

I learned that sometimes it takes courage to do the right thing! God sometimes arranges for us to be in the right place ... at the right time ... to do important work for Him!

Who Am I?

Rahab



Elia

I lived in the city of Jericho in a hotel on the top of a very high wall.

One evening, Joshua sent two men to spy on the city of Jericho. When they arrived, they stayed at my hotel.



The soldiers of the King came to my door looking for the spies.

I told them I did not know who the men were and they had left the city.

Actually, I had hidden the men on the roof.

After the soldiers left, I told the spies that the people in Jericho were very afraid of the God of Israel. They had heard all the things God had done for Israel and their hearts were trembling in fear. But I believed that the God of Israel was the True God of heaven and earth.

Since I had shown them kindness, I asked the spies if they would save me and my family. They promised that they would.

I helped the spies escape the city secretly by letting them down through the window by a cord. I told them to hide in the mountains until it was safe to return to their camp.

The spies told me that when the Israelites would come against Jericho, I should leave a red cord hanging from my window. That way they would know where I and my family were. Then we would be lowered down the wall by that scarlet cord and join the Israelites in safety.

The day finally came that the Israelites surrounded the walls of Jericho. Before the Israelites destroyed the city, they found the red cord and rescued me and my family.

We were saved and allowed to live with the Israelites. I married one of them.

Who Am I?

Joshua fit the battle of Jericho, Jericho, Jericho ...
Joshua fit the battle of Jericho
And the walls came tumbling down!

You may talk about your man of Gideon ...
You may talk about your king of Saul ...
But there's none like good old Joshua ...
At the battle of Jericho!

Up to the walls of Jericho ...
He marched with spear in hand ...
"Go blow them ram horns", Joshua cried,
"Cause the battle is in my hand!"

Then the lamb's ram sheep horn begin to blow, ...
Trumpets begin to sound ...
Joshua commanded the children to SHOUT!!!!
And the walls came tumbling down!

O Brethren, Joshua fit the battle of Jericho, Jericho, Jericho
Joshua fit the battle of Jericho
And the walls came tumbling down!



Moses



Pharaoh ordered all the Jewish baby boys to be drowned in the Nile River. My mother hid me in a basket in the bulrushes where Pharaoh's daughter found me. She adopted me and hired my own mother to raise me.



While I was growing up in the courts of Pharaoh, the rest of the Jews were slaves. Once I tried to help a slave who was being beaten. I killed the overseer to save the slave's life. Then I had to run away to save my own life.

I fled to the land of Midian where I was a shepherd for 40 years.

One day, I saw a bush on fire...but it didn't burn up. When I came near to look at the bush, the Lord spoke to me from the bush. He told me to return to Egypt to deliver His people Israel from slavery.

I was afraid of talking to Pharaoh, but God told me my brother Aaron would go with me and help me.

I learned that God will use us no matter how shy or afraid we are if we trust Him.

When Israel was in Egypt's land...

Let my people go!

Oppressed so hard they could not stand...

Let my people go!

Go down Moses...Way down in Egypt land

Tell old Pharaoh...

"Let my people go!"

"Thus spoke the Lord" bold Moses said...

Let my people go!

"If not I'll smite your first born dead..."

Let my people go!

Go down Moses...Way down in Egypt land

Tell old Pharaoh...

"Let my people go!"



Aaron my brother and I kept asking Pharaoh to let God's people go. But only after 10 plagues destroyed the land and Egypt's firstborn were killed was Israel let go.

I led the Israelites out of Egypt, across the Red Sea, and brought them to Mt. Sinai. Here I received the 10 commandments for Israel.

Who Am I?

Joseph



I had 11 brothers. I was my father's favorite and he gave me a coat of many colors.

My brothers were so jealous of me that they sold me into slavery. I was taken to Egypt.

In Egypt, Potiphar, an officer of Pharaoh, bought me. I became the manager of his house and made him very wealthy. But then Potiphar put me in prison because his wife fell in love with me.

In prison I was in chains...heavy chains that hurt my feet. An iron collar was put around my neck.

Pharaoh's chief butler and baker were also put in prison at that time. They each had dreams and God helped me explain the meaning of their dreams. What I said came to pass, but they forgot about me.



Then one day Pharaoh had a dream. I was called from prison to explain Pharaoh's dream about a coming famine. Pharaoh was so pleased with me he made me second in command.



When the terrible famine came, I was put in charge of the food. My brothers came to Egypt to buy food, but they did not recognize me.

When they learned who I was, Pharaoh invited them to Egypt to live. I was able to help them get food and find a good place to live in the Land of Goshen.

Even though my brothers treated me wrongly, I forgave them.

I learned that God can make very hard experiences work out for the good and blessing of everyone.

Who Am I?



TRUST AND OBEY

1 When we walk with the Lord In the light of His Word
What a glory He sheds on our way!
While we do His good will, He abides with us still,
And with all who will trust and obey.

2 Not a shadow can rise, Not a cloud in the skies,
But His smile quickly drives it away;
Not a doubt nor a fear, Not a sigh nor a tear,
Can abide while we trust and obey.

3 Not a burden we bear, Not a sorrow we share,
But our toil He doth richly repay;
Not a grief nor a loss, Not a frown nor a cross,
But is blest if we trust and obey.

Chorus

Trust and obey, for there's no other way
To be happy in Jesus, but to trust and obey.

The eyes of the LORD
are upon the righteous,
and his ears
are open unto their cry.
Psa 34:15

