

Genesis – “Family, Fear and Grace”

Genesis 38

Sept. 20th, 2020

Pastor Jim Laxson

God is *FAITHFUL!* Let’s say it again, “*GOD IS Faithful!!!*” He knows us and our sometimes frail, faithless fears – yet, He remains faithful. Won’t it be delightful to one day sit at Jesus’ feet and ask questions of Scripture that baffle us?!? “*That Judah story with Judah and Tamar, Lord, huh?*”

Context: Joseph has been sold into to the Midianite caravan heading for Egypt - for many of the brothers, “the dreamer is GONE!”; for Reuben and even Judah, it is bitter to watch Jacob, their Dad, day after day as a victim of the boy’s lie, in his deep grief

Genesis 38:1-5

“*Judah departed from his brothers*”

Adullam - a sml town @ 15 mi NW of Hebron

Shua, a Canaanite >

Chezib - a smaller town nearby

Vs. 6-11

Er “*was evil in the sight of the Lord*”

Onan - *levirate marriage*
(*levir > lat. 'brother-in-law*)

“*So Tamar went and lived in her father’s house.*”

Vs. 12-20

Timnah - 33 mi NW of Hebron

Tamar, shamed and overlooked, resolves to

Pledge > security > sadly, Tamar knew Judah’s

Vs. 20-23

Vs. 24-26

“*And he did not have relations with her again.*”

Vs. 27-30

*Judah, embarrassed and found “shy of _____.”
Tamar, humbled, humiliated and rejected, yet found to be
“more _____” than Judah!
Yet, our God, El Shaddai, El Elyon, Adonai in His holiness
and grace, chooses Tamar to be one of four gentile women
in the line to His Son, the Savior of mankind!
Tamar > a Canaanite giving birth by incest
Rehab > a prostitute yet of faith (Heb. 11:31)
Ruth > a Moabite who persuaded Boaz (Ruth 2:9)
Bathsheba > in adultery with King David (2 Samuel 11)
God, gracious and abounding in love and compassion -
amazes us with His ways! Let us yield our lives to Him!*

What part of this passage “caught your attention”?

Is God saying something to you? What is it?

How will you respond?