



The story of Tamar found in Genesis 38 reads like a Lifetime Network Movie. Yes, I have watched a few of these movies. They have drama, victims, trauma, conflict, deception, and triumph. The movies are entertaining most of the time but the Bible feeds our hungry souls like no movie could ever do. Not only that but the Biblical stories are actually quite unpredictable and far more exciting than movies. The story of Tamar is one such example.

1. Before we begin our study of Tamar, read Matthew 1:1-3. What important role does Tamar play in Christian history?
2. Genesis 38 begins with the words, "at that time". To find out what "at that time means" read Genesis 37 then summarize what happened. What was Judah's involvement?
3. Read Genesis 38:1-2. What do you think of Judah's choices in these 2 verses? What affect do you think the event of Genesis 37 had on Judah's choices? Explain your answer. (Compare this to how Isaac and Jacob got their wives if you have done the study on Rebekah and Rachel.)
4. Read Genesis 38:2-11. Name Judah's three sons and the things you learn about each one.





5. From the book of Genesis, what other lives has God taken due to their wickedness? (Check the context of Genesis 7:23 and 19:24-25 for your answer.)

6. Up to Genesis 38:11 Tamar is passive and under the authority of Judah. Name all the things that happened to Tamar so far.

7. Read Deuteronomy 25:5-10. Describe what appears to be an established ancient custom or law at the time of Judah and Tamar.

8. Read Genesis: 38:12-15. What action does Tamar take and what circumstance did she take advantage of?

9. Read Genesis 38:16-23. Was Judah's visit to a prostitute a planned event or an impulsive act? How desperate was he to have what he wanted?





10. Read Genesis 41:39-45 to discover the value of a man's signet ring?
Comment on Judah's character and choices so far.
11. Read Genesis 38:20-24. What blatant double standard did Judah display when he learned of Tamar's pregnancy?
12. Read Genesis 38:26. What is Judah saying about Tamar by describing her as righteous? Describe Tamar's righteousness. What public confession did he make?
13. Check these verses for to define the word righteousness John 17:25; 1 John 2:1; Habakkuk 2:4; Matthew 25:37-40; Matthew 13:43. Describe Tamar's righteousness in this chapter.
14. Read Genesis 38:27-30. How awesome that Tamar gave birth to twin sons. What are your thoughts on this?
15. Read Genesis 44. What difference do you see in Judah? Name the process Judah went through to bring him to this point. What role did Tamar have?
16. What personal applications can you make to your own life from your study of Tamar?

