

ULC Sermon Study Resource

Tamar

Pastor Tyler Cronkright

November 29th, 2020

Prayer: Pause for a few moments to go to the Lord in prayer. Ask that He would draw near to you in this time, and open your heart and mind to hear His Word.

Icebreaker: How was your Thanksgiving? What was your favorite dish this year?

Reading: Genesis 38:6-30

Outline:

- I. The conception of Perez and Zerah
 - a. Oden chose to not fulfill his responsibility to Tamar and was misleading about his intentions
 - b. Judah confesses to his sin and says that Tamar is more righteous than himself
Q: What is the significance of the “firstborn” actually being born last?
- II. Tamar, a Canaanite woman, is used in the genealogy of Jesus
 - a. God can use anyone according to His purpose, He is not partial
 - b. We all inherit the kingdom of God
Q: Why is it important to know about the genealogies listed in Scripture?
- III. Why was this story included in the Bible?
 - a. Jesus’s lineage contains deep sin, so he was born into sin just as we are
 - b. Jesus chose to come into this world and to put on all of our humanity, even the sins that are offensive beyond belief
Q: Why would God choose Judah, after everything he had done?

Reflection/Application Questions:

- 1) Have you ever been quick to condemn someone, like Judah condemned Tamar?
- 2) God can use anyone according to His purpose, so how does this affect the way we might think about others? Especially those that we might not view as righteous?
- 3) How would you feel about telling a story like this about your own family? How does that help us better understand the significance of including this story in Scripture?
- 4) How does this story help us fully appreciate who Jesus is as we prepare for his coming this advent season?
- 5) How does it humble us to know that Jesus took on all of our worst sins when he died for us?

Suggestions for further study:

- James 2:1-4 **Q: What does it mean to be partial? Do we do this often in our own lives?**
- Romans 5:12-14 **Q: What do these verses tell us about sin and death?**
- Genesis 49:10 **Q: How does God work through Judah to keep his promise?**

Closing Prayer: Heavenly Father, thank you for this day and for the opportunity to gather and learn about your Word. We confess that we have not always trusted in your plan and purpose, and we ask for your forgiveness. Thank you for sending Jesus to take on humanity’s deepest sins, allowing us to live freely in your grace. We pray that the meditations of our hearts and the words of our mouths be pleasing in your sight. We ask all this in Jesus’s name, Amen.