

LESSONS THIS QUARTER

- 1) 03 Mar.....Genesis 21-23.....A Substitute
- 2) 10 Mar.....Genesis 24.....Guidance Needed
- 3) 17 Mar.....Genesis 25-27.....A Deceiver
- 4) 24 Mar.....Genesis 28-30.....A Stairway
- 5) 31 Mar.....John 20.....Believe!
- 6) 07 Apr.....Genesis 30-31.....Blessed
- 7) 14 Apr.....Genesis 32-33.....Wrestled
- 8) 21 Apr.....Genesis 34-36.....Renewed
- 9) 28 Apr.....Genesis 37.....Dreamer
- 10) 05 May.....Genesis 38-39.....Accused
- 11) 12 May.....Genesis 40-41.....Revealed
- 12) 19 May.....Genesis 42-46.....Reconcile
- 13) 26 May.....Genesis 47-50.....Revenge?

INTRODUCTION

- Judah gets his daughter-in-law, Tamar, pregnant. God eventually established explicit laws forbidding fornication, adultery, & familial sexual relationships [Lev 18](#)
- Yet, Judah's younger brother, Joseph, understood God's moral laws for sexual behavior without needing to have explicit laws written down. Where did he get such insight? It had to come from his dad.

Passage	Comments
Genesis 38:1-11	<p>Judah Gets Tangled Up with Canaanites</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • vv8-10. Why was it deadly for Onan to “waste his seed on the ground”? Is it a sin today?NO <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ This was applicable to Israel only ♦ Israel was specifically chosen by God, and they had a direct mandate to multiply..... Gen 35:11 ♦ Having a proven lineage was crucial for clan rights to the land and especially for priests and Davidic kingship Num 34:2; 1Chron 17:11-14; Ezra 2:62 ♦ Men often had multiple wives to fulfill this mandate <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Polygamy is not God's preferred approach, but He worked with sinful man & their cultural norms • Women, thru divorce, could go from one man to another in a sequential fashion, but it was an abomination to go back to a previous husband WHY? Possibly to prevent wife-swapping and “Who's Your Daddy” syndrome..... Deut 24:4
38:12-30	<p>Tamar's Deception</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • v24. Judah wanted Tamar to be burnt w/ fire, possibly indicating she was a daughter of a priest Lev 21:9 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Some ancient Hebrew texts state Tamar was the daughter of Melchizedek, but this is not provable ♦ Tamar was in all probability a Canaanite, as was Rahab, so Jesus had a double dose of foreign blood ♦ Remember: Canaanites were to be utterly destroyed with no mercy for their wickedness..... Deut 7:1-2 • Tamar was an ancestor of Jesus, but Tamar was not married to Judah. She just had a 1-night fling with him.
Jesus' Lineage Included Some Unique Women	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tamar, probably a Canaanite, had a 1-night fling with her father-in-law, Judah, who thought she was a prostitute. • Rahab was a Canaanite prostitute. In Rahab's day, Canaanites were to be totally wiped out by the Jews. • Ruth, a Moabite, was descended from Lot's incestual relationship with one of his daughters. Moabites were forbidden from entering the Temple for 10 generations • Bathsheba (possibly a Hittite like her husband, Uriah) was in an adulterous relationship with King David • Athaliah was King Ahaziah's mother. She was Ahab's & Jezebel's daughter, giving Jesus Philistine blood • Mary was hailed by an angel as “highly favored” <p>Conclusion: Jesus' ancestry was just as chaotic as many of ours with adulterers, prostitutes, and one-night stands; Yet God is willing to save & use us whether we are born in wedlock, out of wedlock, or in a test tube PTL</p>

Passage	Comments
39:1-6	<p>Joseph Was a Hunk and He Had a Midas Touch</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • vv1-5. God was with Joseph, and Potiphar recognized God's hand was on him Prov 16:7 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Do our friends, family, and co-workers see God's hand on us? In what ways? <input type="checkbox"/> Material Blessings? <input type="checkbox"/> Spiritual Maturity? <input type="checkbox"/> Other areas? • v6. Joe got his good looks from his mom, Rachel, who was “beautiful in form and face” (Gen 29:17), & G'ma Rebekah who was “very beautiful” too (Gen 24:16) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ How do good looks get people in trouble? ♦ How does having a good character bring trouble?
39:7-10	<p>Joseph Had High Morals</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Even though the Mosaic law wasn't written down yet, there are still immutable and timeless laws and moral codes applicable to everyone, Jew and non-Jew <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ E.g., Murder, Lying, Theft (which includes Adultery) • Similar situations are prevalent in the work place today <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Sexual harassment training is often mandatory ♦ What are some protections we should take? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Only hire ugly people? <input type="checkbox"/> Dress appropriately? <input type="checkbox"/> Keep your eyes straight ahead.. Job 31:1; Pr 4:25
39:11-20	<p>Joseph Flees Temptation, But Pays the Price</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • v17,18. The spurned wife sought to harm the man she wanted to take to bed. The good may get punished for doing the right and noble thing Pr 17:15, 26 • Potiphar doesn't have Joseph executed, but instead, puts him in, not just any prison, but in the King's prison probably a light security prison for white-collar crimes. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ It's possible Potiphar didn't exactly believe his wife, but he was forced to do something
39:21-23	<p>God Was with Joseph Even in Prison</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joseph exemplified what Peter stressed about being unjustly condemned, enduring it faithfully, and receiving God's favor from it 1Peter 2:20 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Do we faithfully endure false accusations, or do we retaliate, fight back, and put it on Facebook? ♦ BUT, like Paul, know when it is appropriate to appeal to Caesar – though you still might go to jail

CONCLUSION / APPLICATIONS

- Do we need to have the Bible to know right from wrong? Or does God embed such morals into each of us?..... [Romans 1:18-20](#)
- Also, if we find ourselves being tempted to sin, have we planned out our response ahead of time? Do we stay or flee; reason or run?

NEXT WEEK: Genesis 40-41. Joseph's ability to interpret dreams gets him a royal hearing which changes his life forever

The Back Pew – Jeff Larson



THE ORIGINAL DESPERATE HOUSEWIFE