

Joseph  
Gen 38 and 39, the cloak and the pit (part 2)

If you are new or visiting; a special warm welcome to you. We trust you enjoy your time with us.

Today we will be having communion. If it is your practice to participate in this we welcome you to join with us in celebrating the Lord's Supper. If this is not your custom or if you are unsure of what to do please just pass the emblems (bread and wine) to the person next to you.

In these two chapters we see two men approach the same challenge in completely different ways.

**38:1 Judah visited** a certain Adulamite named Hirah. This is the word natah, to face towards, turn towards or be open to influence from. It is also in v16 He turned to her by the way.

Other uses: Gen 12:8 Abraham pitched his tent. 24:14 Rebecca "Let down your pitcher. Ps 119:112 I have inclined my heart to perform Your statutes. Isaiah 55:3 Incline your ear...

God in His grace used frail humans to work His purposes. Tamar is one of the five women mentioned in the Royal line (Matthew 1)

### Ch 39 Joseph again

Remembering Old Testament scripture in general and Genesis in particular should speak to us in three ways.

1) As an historical record. 2) As pointing to Christ. 3) As personal exhortation.

#### 1. The History

v2 The Lord prospered Joseph (also v3 and 23) this word (salah) is used of David 1Sam 16:13 and Joshua 1:8.

v4 found favour in his eyes. Jacob tried to buy it (Gen 33:8, 10 & 15)

v5 The Lord blessed him for Joseph's sake

v6 He left all he had in Joseph's hand. Gen 2:24 A man will leave his mother and father. He was handsome (good to look at) also his mother and grandmother (Gen 29:17 and 24:16) compare Isaiah 53:2 no form or comeliness..

v7 she cast her eyes upon him (lit lifted up her eyes) Abraham Gen 22:4 and 13. See also 37:24.

v8 he refused (strongly) Jacob Gen 37:35. Naboth 1 Kings 21:15

v9 no-one greater than ... this great wickedness see Gen 45:7 this great deliverance.

Wickedness see Gen 6:5 the wickedness of man was great... imagination of heart evil always.

And sin against God. Gen 40:1 offended (against) Ex 10:16 offended against the lord (Pharaoh)

v10 did not heed her or be with her.

v12 Fled outside – see Ex 14:25 "let us flee"

#### 2. Of Christ

Isaiah 53:9 Who committed no sin neither was deceit found in His mouth  
1 Peter 2:23 when He was reviled..

Psalm 40:2 He brought me up out of a horrible pit, out of the miry clay and set my feet on a rock. Jonah 2:6 I went down to the moorings of the mountains, the earth with its bars closed behind me forever. Yet You have brought up my life from the pit.

#### 3. To us

Judah visited the temptation then turned aside after it – Joseph turned away, refusing to listen or be close to it. Finally he fled and severed himself from the connection.

Popularity and success has its price, am I ready for it?

Doing the right thing doesn't always feel right or win us any friends but 'God is the rewarder of those who diligently seek Him (Heb 11:6)

