

Genesis 38:12-26 (ESV)

¹ It happened at that time that Judah went down from his brothers and turned aside to a certain Adullamite, whose name was Hirah. ² There Judah saw the daughter of a certain Canaanite whose name was Shua. He took her and went in to her, ³ and she conceived and bore a son, and he called his name Er... ⁶ And Judah took a wife for Er his firstborn, and her name was Tamar. ⁷ But Er, Judah's firstborn, was wicked in the sight of the Lord, and the Lord put him to death.

... [Onan the second born meets a similar fate vs 8-11]

¹¹ Then Judah said to Tamar his daughter-in-law, "Remain a widow in your father's house, till Shelah my son grows up"—for he feared that he would die, like his brothers. So Tamar went and remained in her father's house.

¹² In the course of time the wife of Judah, Shua's daughter, died. When Judah was comforted, he went up to Timnah to his sheepshearers, he and his friend Hirah the Adullamite. ¹³ And when Tamar was told, "Your father-in-law is going up to Timnah to shear his sheep," ¹⁴ she took off her widow's garments and covered herself with a veil, wrapping herself up, and sat at the entrance to Enaim, which is on the road to Timnah. For she saw that Shelah was grown up, and she had not been given to him in marriage.

¹⁵ When Judah saw her, he thought she was a prostitute, for she had covered her face. ¹⁶ He turned to her at the roadside and said, "Come, let me come in to you," for he did not know that she was his daughter-in-law. She said, "What will you give me, that you may come in to me?" ¹⁷ He answered, "I will send you a young goat from the flock." And she said, "If you give me a pledge, until you send it—" ¹⁸ He said, "What pledge shall I give you?" She replied, "Your signet and your cord and your staff that is in your hand." So he gave them to her and went in to her, and she conceived by him.

¹⁹ Then she arose and went away, and taking off her veil she put on the garments of her widowhood.

²⁰ When Judah sent the young goat by his friend the Adullamite to take back the pledge from the woman's hand, he did not find her. ²¹ And he asked the men of the place, "Where is the cult prostitute who was at Enaim at the roadside?" And they said, "No cult prostitute has been here." ²² So he returned to Judah and said, "I have not found her. Also, the men of the place said, 'No cult prostitute has been here.'" ²³ And Judah replied, "Let her keep the things as her own, or we shall be laughed at. You see, I sent this young goat, and you did not find her."

²⁴ About three months later Judah was told, "Tamar your daughter-in-law has been immoral. Moreover, she is pregnant by immorality." And Judah said, "Bring her out, and let her be burned." ²⁵ As she was being brought out, she sent word to her father-in-law, "By the man to whom these belong, I am pregnant." And she said, "Please identify whose these are, the signet and the cord and the staff." ²⁶ Then Judah identified them and said, "She is more righteous than I, since I did not give her to my son Shelah." And he did not know her again.

²⁷ When the time of her labor came, there were twins in her womb.

²⁸ And when she was in labor, one put out a hand, and the midwife took and tied a scarlet thread on his hand, saying, "This one came out first." ²⁹ But as he drew back his hand, behold, his brother came out. And she said, "What a breach you have made for yourself!" Therefore his name was called Perez. ³⁰ Afterward his brother came out with the scarlet thread on his hand, and his name was called Zerah.

(Meanwhile, Joseph has been taken to Egypt after Judah suggested they sell him to the caravan Gen 37)

Simultaneous Accounts
Gen 37:36 ; 38:1
Some time as three sons were raised to adulthood

The custom of Levirate Marriage violated out of superstitious fear – social disgrace for Tamar (Deut 25:5ff)

Obviously Judah has bad companions and habits – and sheep shearing meant heavy drinking

which Tamar intends to and will to exploit

I.E. giving her his "id and credit cards"

a "nice" way to put "it"

Lit. "played the whore"

A very abrupt and extreme reaction

What's missing here?

Twins! Not surprising since their grandfather, Jacob was a twin as well.

Jacob's Blessings:
Judah Gen 49:8-10
Joseph Gen 49:22-26

"Perez"?

Num 26:20-21, Ruth 4:12,
I Chron 2:4,5 27:3,
Neh 11:4, 6
Matt 1:3, Luke 3:33

Genesis 39:1-20 (ESV)

¹ Now Joseph had been brought down to Egypt, and Potiphar, an officer of Pharaoh, the captain of the guard, an Egyptian, had bought him from the Ishmaelites who had brought him down there. ² **The Lord was with Joseph**, and he became a successful man, and **he was in the house of his Egyptian master**. ³ His master saw that the Lord was with him and that the **Lord caused all that he did to succeed in his hands**. ⁴ So Joseph found favor in his sight and attended him, and he made him **overseer of his house** and put him **in charge** of all that he had. ⁵ From the time that he made him **overseer in his house** and **over all that he had the Lord blessed** the Egyptian's **house** for Joseph's sake; **the blessing of the Lord was on all that he had, in house** and field. ⁶ **So he left all that he had** in Joseph's charge, and because of **him he had no concern about anything** but the food he ate.

Now Joseph was handsome in form and appearance.

⁷ **And after a time** his master's wife cast her eyes on Joseph and said, *"Lie with me."* ⁸ **But he refused** and said to his master's wife, *"Behold, because of me **my master has no concern about anything in the house**, and **he has put everything that he has in my charge**. ⁹ **He is not greater in this house than I am, nor has he kept back anything from me except yourself, because you are his wife**. How then can I do this great wickedness and sin against God?"*

¹⁰ **And as she spoke to Joseph day after day**, he would not listen to her, to lie beside her or to be with her.

¹¹ **But one day, when he went into the house** to do his work and none of the men of **the house** was there in the house, ¹² she caught him by his garment, saying, *"Lie with me."* **But he left his garment in her hand and fled and got out of the house.**

¹³ **And as soon as she saw that he had left his garment in her hand and had fled out of the house**, ¹⁴ she called to the men **of her household and said to them**, *"See, he has brought among us a Hebrew to laugh at us. He came in to me to lie with me, and I cried out with a loud voice. ¹⁵ And as soon as he heard that I lifted up my voice and cried out, **he left his garment beside me and fled and got out of the house.**"*

¹⁶ **Then she laid up his garment by her until his master came home**, ¹⁷ **and she told him the same story, saying**, *"The Hebrew servant, whom you have brought among us, came in to me to laugh at me. ¹⁸ But as soon as I lifted up my voice and cried, **he left his garment beside me and fled out of the house.**"*

¹⁹ **As soon as his master heard the words that his wife spoke to him**, *"This is the way your servant treated me,"* his anger was kindled.

²⁰ And Joseph's master took him and put him **into the prison**, the place where the king's prisoners were confined, and **he was there in prison**. ²¹ **But the Lord was with Joseph** and showed him steadfast love and **gave him favor** in the sight of the keeper of the prison. ²² And the keeper of the prison put Joseph **in charge of all** the prisoners who were in the prison. Whatever was done there, he was the one who did it. ²³ **The keeper of the prison paid no attention to anything that was in Joseph's charge**, because the Lord was with him. **And whatever he did, the Lord made it succeed.**

Potiphar Gen 37:36

**Repetitions:
The Lord made him
successful!**

**Key words:
"house"
"hand"
"put in charge"**

Contrastive Dialogue

**Note the changes in her
version of the event!**

**Who does she blame for
the "Hebrew" servant in
their midst?**

**Echoes of the repetition
in the beginning
of the chapter**