

Genesis: God and Man

Judah Departed

Genesis 38

Pastors generally aren't going to naturally choose this one when asked to speak somewhere

Had a convo about the things the church shares and doesn't

“Taboo” topics that could be highly beneficial

In school:



Boosh
@whatsupboosh

Me: how do I do taxes?

School: here's a recorder

Me: what is a credit score?

School: just put it in your mouth and
blow like this

Me: how do I choose the right
healthcare plan?

School: HOT. CROSS. BUNS.

Granted, parents should teach these...but perhaps they don't even know.

Church tends to ignore important topics, or treat them with a puritanical attitude
(not that it shouldn't be done tactfully and tastefully)

Heb 13:4 NKJV - Marriage [is] honorable among all, and the bed undefiled; but fornicators and adulterers God will judge.

1Co 7:1-9 NKJV - Now concerning the things of which you wrote to me: [It is] good for a man not to touch a woman. Nevertheless, because of sexual immorality, let each man have his own wife, and let each woman have her own husband. Let the husband render to his wife the affection due her, and likewise also the wife to her husband. The wife does not have authority over her own body, but the husband [does]. And likewise the husband does not have authority over his own body, but the wife [does]. Do not deprive one another except with consent for a time, that you may give yourselves to fasting and

prayer; and come together again so that Satan does not tempt you because of your lack of self-control. But I say this as a concession, not as a commandment. For I wish that all men were even as I myself. But each one has his own gift from God, one in this manner and another in that. But I say to the unmarried and to the widows: It is good for them if they remain even as I am; but if they cannot exercise self-control, let them marry. For it is better to marry than to burn [with passion].

Marriage is the place for **passion**
As a fireplace for fire

Read this section in proverbs if time, otherwise just

Pro 6:25-27 NKJV - Do not lust after her beauty in your heart, Nor let her allure you with her eyelids. For by means of a harlot [A man is reduced] to a crust of bread; And an adulteress will prey upon his precious life. Can a man take fire to his bosom, And his clothes not be burned?

38:1-11

Judah - fourthborn, of Leah, "praise"

Jesus would be called the Lion of the Tribe of Judah

Departed "went down"

Interesting that he departs after this. Leaving his brothers to go "become a man"

Interesting that the word can also mean bow down.

Joseph's brothers would bow down before him one day
And Judah is bowing down before them now

Why does he go down to these people? Didn't his father and grandfather set a precedent in how to get a wife? I guess maybe not his father...but Isaac certainly was a perfect picture.

Perhaps the pressure of seeing them around girls
The influence - bad or good - of the guys around you
Locker room (really everywhere) talk with guys about girls
Would go anywhere and do anything to find some girls to be around.

A passion ignited too early, perversion, pornography
It is a fire that burns out of hand the minute it is lit

Marries a caananite woman...daughter of Shuah "wealth"

Er - awake

Onan - strong

Shelah - a petition

Chezib - false

Obviously some time passes in these verses because he takes a wife for Er

Tamar - "Palm tree"

Gen 38:7 NKJV - But Er, Judah's firstborn, was wicked in the sight of the LORD, and the LORD killed him.

God hadn't killed Cain, but he did Er

We don't know what he did. But this kid was obviously wicked through and through

Discipline of a child, guarding them from wicked society, teaching them the right way to go
School shooters

Wicked through and through people

Stoning to death a child who is rebellious through and through...I can't imagine

Pro 19:18 NKJV - Chasten your son while there is hope, And do not set your heart on his destruction.

It is important to discipline our children, especially our sons if they are rebellious. **Not to destroy them, but to save them from destruction.**

Onan knew the heir wouldn't be his

Selfish, didn't care for his brother, their family name, Tamar

Emitted on the ground...

Birth control, but not in a godly way

Wanted the benefits of the sexual relationship but not the requirements for it

"Be fruitful and multiply"

Birth control isn't necessarily bad...if we define the terms.

You obviously want to be wise about the number of kids you have.

Ash's health concerns

But the method and the motive...those are different stories

What's your motive? So you can sleep around outside of marriage?

What's your motive? So you won't have kids because you don't want to be fruitful and multiply?

The methods themselves...how were they developed? How do they work?

Do they truly prevent birth? Or do they just end one early?

Operations...can be effective, but no guarantee...and then what?

And are you so sure God wants you to be done having children that you're going to permanently alter your body?

Are there other options, other methods, in a healthy relationship, that can help supplement the relationship and not end up in pregnancy? Yes.

If you and your spouse agree to it, and the Lord doesn't tell you "don't do that" then you are free to do it. Perhaps it would prevent 19 kids and counting in a good way and keep you from taking a drug that really isn't birth "control" or stray from your marriage into trying to fulfill your passions elsewhere.

Perhaps the divorce rate in church wouldn't be so high if the sex rate in marriage wasn't so low.

Because let's be honest...most divorces are about sex.

Sex can heal and work into a lot of problem solving...and without it...major problems quickly erupt.

God killed him for this.

Will God kill you for this? No. But the Lord was doing something here. Working on starting a nation, even with Judah and his unrighteous sons and their Canaanite wives.

Deaths in early Acts...Ananias and Sapphira

Remain a widow...not a fair thing to ask

Instructions for widows

1 Timothy 5:1-16

Now she's got to wait for Shelah to grow up...**awkward**. This little boy is going to grow up and marry you and sleep with you and give you an heir? This is who he has to marry first?

Judah...what are you thinking? He's got one son left.

This moral drive to have heirs, care for his brothers...is done in a totally twisted way

So often with these things, we claim some sort of moral high ground in our decision making process...and ignore the real facts, of who's getting hurt, what the real cost is...to ourselves, to our families and loved ones, to society and ultimately God's kingdom.

Judah...maybe you should have stayed at home instead of trying to sow those wild oats and build your own kingdom because you're a man now...

:12-19

Judah's wife died

Tamar takes off her widow's garments...probably not very attractive looking in that sweatsuit
Is mad and burned that she waited this long, Shelah is a man and they're not married off yet

So she goes up after her father in law...creepy

"Hell hath no fury like a woman scorn"

She's obviously not a righteous woman, she's not a believer, her morals are corrupt, she's had some odd experiences (both husbands killed by God, second didn't really want her and used her)

Sits out there like a harlot

Prostitution...world's oldest profession...because men are willing to pay for it and woman are willing to give it

I would never do that! Yeah, but did you have sex on a first date before you were a Christian?
Hopefully not after being a Christian...was your price just dinner at Denny's?

Man, if Judah had only read proverbs!

Proverbs 7:6-27

Judah says PLEASE let me have sex with you

Was he being polite? Was he begging? He didn't recognize her. That's some veil...and IDK if you've ever seen some prostitutes, watched a show like cops, and man, looking at some you'd wonder why anyone would sleep with them. Desire puts a veil on your eyes and you go do things you wouldn't do when you were sober...like so-called "beer goggles"

What will you give me?

She was willing to sleep with her father in law! This wasn't a big deal to her to get what she wanted.

Are we reading about the precursor to an episode of some trashy daytime TV show or what?

A goat...ladies, if he tries to woo you with a goat...do I even need to tell you you're worth more than that? And worth more than his signet ring and staff...more than his checkbook, more than his private jet, more than his fancy life?

I always told Ash before we got married, "are you sure you want this life?" and I didn't even have a goat to offer her when getting married.

Immediately goes back to dressing in the widow's attire

She knew how to dress it up, and either she was just doing it temporarily or she was hurrying back to not be discovered. This situation revealed what kind of woman she really was.

You're not a thief because you stole, you stole because you're a thief (chuck smith)

Be careful who you marry

But also, don't ask a woman if you can sleep with her...

Just because you're sad and you're wife his dead and you have needs Judah, doesn't mean some random woman by the side of the road is the one you want to have meet those needs.

I would never do that! But...do you kindly ask the internet to show you what you want?

"When Tamar conceived, it certainly was not intended by Judah, but it was definitely planned by both Tamar and God." DGC

Sure, these were not God's methods...but God allows certain things to happen in our lives due to our actions or inactions. The fruits of our labor, so to speak. Even if they are consequences.

So if you got pregnant with your significant other...I might counsel you to get married. But first, get saved. Come to the Lord. You loved each other enough to sleep together, you can certainly spend your lives together. And if not, then you shouldn't have slept with each other.

That's why it's so important to marry the right person. Not to try it out first. Not to get entangled in a relationship first.

Joining of hearts/souls...ripping.

:20-30

Sent the goat by the hand of his friend...he can't even do it himself. Wanting to distance himself or just couldn't be bothered with it.

Again, ladies, you're worth more than that

Dude, there's no harlot around here...

There are certain places that prostitutes are, stay away

Let her keep it, lest we be shamed.

Judah now worried about being shamed for not fulfilling his duty to her

But shouldn't you be ashamed of sleeping with her?

You knew right and wrong...there were no 10 commandments yet...but the moral law was plain to see. There would be no such thing as a harlot or called that way or treated lesser if it had moral value.

Adam and Eve, marriage before God...etc

He wants her burned for playing the harlot

Woman caught in adultery, Jesus defends...how was she even caught?

Dude, not only did she go out and do this...but it was with you.

She was much wiser than Judah. Much craftier.

She's got him by the signet cord

Stories of crazy girlfriends/boyfriends of cheating spouses...blackmail, threats to tell their family if they don't play ball

She has been more righteous than I...she wasn't really righteous, but even her harlotry, sleeping with her father in law, was more righteous than him forcing her to be a widow in his house, not marrying her off the minute his son was old enough, and not taking care of her.

Catholics and sex abuse...because most people have desires that cannot be suppressed. Suppressing right desires begins to pervert them

Author turns his back on Jesus

Twins born

Similar to Jacob and Esau...seem to be fighting to get out

Perez - breach

twin son with Zarah of Judah by Tamar and ancestor of two families of Judah, the Hezronites and Hamulites; from the Hezronites came the royal line of David and Christ

Zerah (had ribbon) Zerah or Zarah = "rising"

Another strange story in the bible...one that gives glimpses into what God is truly caring about. Family. Honor. The nation of Israel. To bring about the Messiah.

I'm glad these things are here, as awkward as they can be at times...because they highlight our need for him. They highlight things that need to be discussed and talked about and taken to heart.

And that even in the midst of these things, God was there. God had a plan, even amongst all of this mess and dysfunction.

And if he did it there...you can be sure he's ready and willing to do something in your dysfunction, your tragedy, your mess.

Because this is Genesis: God and Man