

The Bible Times

I Can't Believe That's In The Bible



Number 14

April 26, 2020

Think You Have A Sordid Family Tree? Think Again!

- Explain the phrase: "The Apple Doesn't Fall Far From The Tree!"
- Thinking about that phrase, why do people try to trace a presidential candidate's family tree during their campaign?
- Agree/Disagree: If you don't have something about your families past that you want to hide, then you haven't studied your ancestry hard enough.

Commented [S1]: This refers to character or inherent personality of a parent (or grandparent), either good or bad, which appear to be inherited by a child

•It means that the children will usually turn out like the parents. Usually, you see this used in a negative way, as when an undesirable or criminal person has children who turn out to also be undesirable or criminal.

[http://wiki.answers.com/Q/What does 'the apple doesn't fall far from the tree' mean](http://wiki.answers.com/Q/What_does_'the_apple_doesn't_fall_far_from_the_tree'_mean)

Commented [S2]: they are trying to give the candidate a bad name by finding something in their past

Commented [S3]:

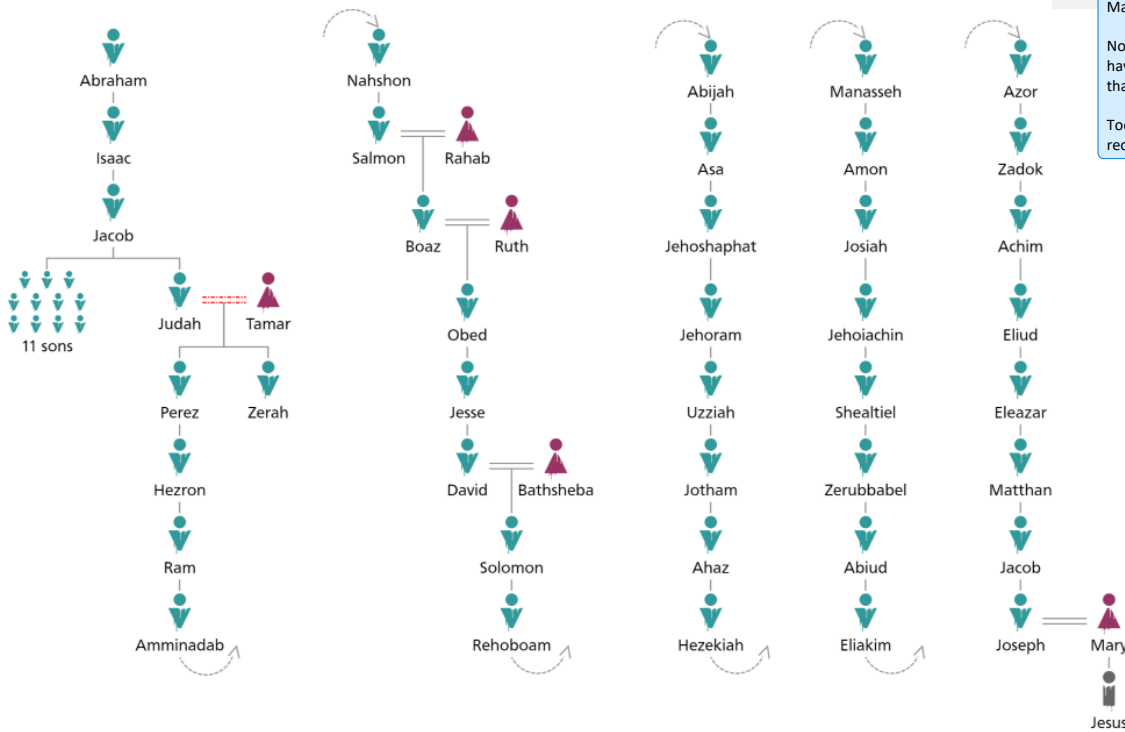
Agree – everyone's got something

Disagree – even with bad things in the past, do we have to be ashamed...Jesus wasn't

The family tree below traces Jesus' genealogy as recorded in Matthew 1.

Note the women that are recorded in Jesus' genealogy. Did Jesus have something to hide in his past? We would say yes. Yet, we'll see that God says no.

Today we focus on the four women (other than Mary) who are recorded in Jesus' family line.



Tamar

Read Genesis 38

- As we talk about this chapter, notice how the Bible does not sugarcoat the actions of the children of God. Thus we see the contrast between the sinfulness of human beings and the amazing grace of God.

Who was Judah?

Commented [S4]: 4th son of Jacob ... one through whom the Savior would come
Reuben had committed incest
Simeon and Levi had masterminded the savage revenge on the Shechemites for dishonoring their sister

What danger is present in the fact that Judah married a Canaanite?

Commented [S5]: "The Canaanites did not worship the true God; nor would Judah's Canaanite wife be likely to teach her children to love the God of the covenant and trust his promises. Furthermore, the Canaanites were under God's curse because of their national religion—a vile mixture of idolatry and adultery—and would be driven out of their national homeland." (PB Genesis 310)

Who was Tamar?

Commented [S6]: Daughter-in-law of Judah married to oldest son Er

Here we have an example of the Levirate marriage. Explain.

Commented [S7]: "This is the first Bible reference to the levirate marriage, although the custom has been found in a number of ancient cultures. This custom of having the next of kin marry a childless widow was definitely fixed by the Lord at Mount Sinai, where it became part of God's sacred constitution governing life among God's people, thereby perpetuating the family of the dead first husband. The first child born of a levirate marriage would live with his father and mother, but in the genealogical tables he would be listed as the son of the dead husband. Moses' farewell address to Israel makes it clear that this practice must not be considered an absolute command from God but as an act of love for the departed brother (Dt. 25:5-10)." (PB311-312)

Why did Tamar dress herself as a prostitute? What does this tell us about Judah?

Commented [S8]: She realized that Judah had not been willing to allow his third son to marry her

Commented [S9]: The fact that she knew that Judah would do this tell us something about the morality of Judah at this time. She knew that he would engage in this act...not only a sexual act but what he believed to be an act of worship

Agree/Disagree: This chapter shows that Jesus came to save sinners by identifying himself completely with mankind.

Commented [S10]: Agree...it is through Perez born of this situation that the line of the Savior continues

Rahab

Read Joshua 2:1-6

What do we learn about this woman, Rahab, from these words?

Commented [S11]: Prostitute...Note: footnote suggests "innkeeper" as a possible translation, but Heb. 11:31 & James 2:25 clearly call her a prostitute

What risk did Rahab take?

Commented [S12]: she not only protected them but lied to the King's men

Read Joshua 2:7-16

• What confession did Rahab make?

Commented [S13]: she confessed the Lord and that he had given the whole land to the Israelites

• What does the following verse from Hebrews tell us about Rahab?

Commented [S14]: faith...note that this is the Great Hall of Faith Chapter

- Hebrews 11:31 – “By faith the prostitute Rahab, because she welcomed the spies, was not killed with those who were disobedient.”

• What did she ask the men to do for her?

Commented [S15]: spare her life

• What did God do for her?

Commented [S16]: not only spared her life but made her part of the Savior’s line

• What does this show us about God that He spared Rahab’s life and used her as He did?

Commented [S17]: shows God’s amazing grace, shows how God can use anyone ... share story – David Rosenau

Ruth

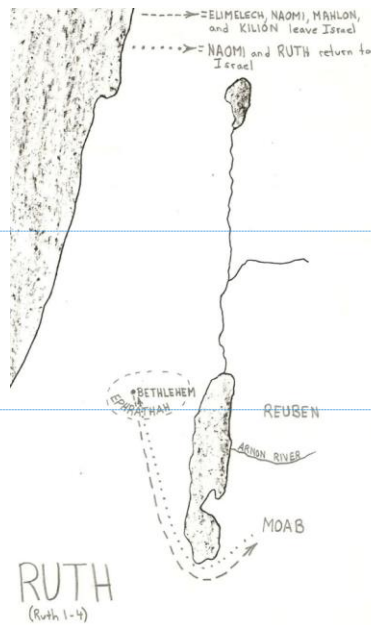
Read Ruth 1:1-5

• What do we know about Ruth?

Commented [S18]: a Moabite daughter-in-law of Naomi husband died

• Why was this situation worse at that time than it would be today?

Commented [S19]: there was not the prospect for a woman to work outside the home...therefore with no husband and no children how would she survive?



Read Ruth 1:6-10

- What advantage would there have been for Ruth and Orpah to return to their homes?
What disadvantage?
- What advantage would there have been for them to go with Naomi?
What disadvantage?

Commented [S20]: Return to their family...be taken care of ...marry again
Having come to know the true God they would be going to people who did not

Commented [S21]: Same God...friendship
How could they expect to be taken care of as foreigners

Read Ruth 1:15-17

- What do we learn about Ruth from these words?

Commented [S22]: Her faith

Bathsheba

Read 2 Samuel 11:1-5

- What do we know about Bathsheba?

Commented [S23]: She was Beautiful
She willingly committed adultery
1st son died
2nd son = Solomon

The Women of Jesus' Family Tree

- List some of the things we know about the women of Jesus' family tree.
- What comfort does this give?

Commented [S24]: Prostitution...adultery...lies... cover-ups...
faith

Commented [S25]: I cannot out sin God's grace ... however,
that doesn't mean I want to try

Prayer – Chief of sinners though I be, Jesus shed his blood for me, died that I might live on high, lives that I might never die. As the branch is to the vine, I am his and he is mine! Oh, the height of Jesus' love, higher than the heavens above, deeper than the depths of sea, lasting as eternity, love that found me – wondrous thought! – Found me when I sought him not. Only Jesus can impart comfort to a wounded heart: peace that flows from sin forgiven, joy that lifts the soul to heaven, faith and hope to walk with God in the way that Enoch trod. Amen. (CW385:1-3)