



“SIN & VICTORY OVER TEMPTATION!”

GENESIS Chapters 38 - 39

> Chapter 38 – “Judah’s Sin!”

- This chapter focuses on Judah; we’ll resume with Joseph in chapters 39 through 50.

(v1-11) Judah’s sons were evil before the LORD and He killed them.

(v12-23) Here we have Judah’s sin and Tamar’s trick.

(v24-26) Judah is caught in his sin, his hypocrisy and self-righteousness, whereas, Tamar is justified. In the New Testament, we have a similar event with the woman caught in the very act of adultery; Jesus convicts the judgmental self-righteous and sets the woman free (John 8:1-12).

(v27-30) Tamar gives birth to twins *Perez (breakthrough)* - The firstborn of the twin sons of Judah by Tamar (Gen 38:29; Pharez, KJV). Perez was an ancestor of David and Jesus (Ruth 4:12,18; Matt 1:3; Luke 3:33). (F.Y.I. – *Zerah* means “sprout”).

(Future insight regarding JUDAH – (1) Numbers 26:19-22 - *The sons of Judah were Er and Onan; and Er and Onan died in the land of Canaan. And the sons of Judah according to their families were: of Shelah, the family of the Shelanites; of Perez, the family of the Parzites; of Zerah, the family of the Zarhites. And the sons of Perez were: of Hezron, the family of the Hezronites; of Hamul, the family of the Hamulites. These are the families of Judah according to those who were numbered of them: seventy-six thousand five hundred.*

(2) Check out the genealogy of CHRIST - Matthew 1:1-16 - *The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the Son of David, the Son of Abraham: Abraham begot Isaac, Isaac begot Jacob, and Jacob begot Judah and his brothers. Judah begot Perez and Zerah by Tamar, Perez begot Hezron, and Hezron begot Ram. Ram begot Amminadab, Amminadab begot Nahshon, and Nahshon begot Salmon. Salmon begot Boaz by Rahab, Boaz begot Obed by Ruth, Obed begot Jesse, and Jesse begot David the king. David the king begot Solomon by her who had been the wife of Uriah. Solomon begot Rehoboam, Rehoboam begot Abijah, and Abijah begot Asa. Asa begot Jehoshaphat, Jehoshaphat begot Joram, and Joram begot Uzziah. Uzziah begot Jotham, Jotham begot Ahaz, and Ahaz begot Hezekiah. Hezekiah begot Manasseh, Manasseh begot Amon, and Amon begot Josiah. Josiah begot Jeconiah and his brothers about the time they were carried away to Babylon. And after they were brought to Babylon, Jeconiah begot Shealtiel, and Shealtiel begot Zerubbabel. Zerubbabel begot Abiud, Abiud begot Eliakim, and Eliakim begot Azor. Azor begot Zadok, Zadok begot Achim, and Achim begot Eliud. Eliud begot Eleazar, Eleazar begot Matthan, and Matthan begot Jacob. And Jacob begot Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom was born Jesus who is called Christ.*

> Chapter 39 – “Joseph’s Victory Over Temptation!”

~ **Insight to the life of Joseph (C.S.I. – Christian Sanctification Investigation):**

- **Let’s embrace 12 Godly characteristics of a man named Joseph:**

(FYI - All men need to learn this lifestyle and women need to discover these characteristics in a man as marriage material.)

#1 – (v2a) **The LORD was with Joseph!** How can we make sure the LORD is with us? (John 15:1-8 - Abide in Jesus, His Word and in prayer.)

#2 – (v2b) **Joseph was a SUCCESSFUL man!** Winston Churchill said, **“The price of greatness is responsibility.”** God spoke to Joshua regarding “success” and said, **“This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success. Have I not commanded you? Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go.”** (Joshua 1:8-9)

#3 – (v3a) **“Potiphar saw that the LORD was with Joseph.”** Joseph’s life presented a **WITNESS!** - Jesus said in Matthew 5:16 – **“Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.”**

#4 – (v3b) The LORD made Joseph PROSPEROUS! How does God make us prosperous? Through discipleship, literally disciplining our lives in godliness and stewardship. We learn to say “NO” to things that will enslave us and “YES” to honesty, integrity, virtue, a disciplined lifestyle (go to bed on time, get up on time, be at work on time, having a strong work ethic, not lazy).

#5 – (v4a) Joseph was a SERVANT! – Jesus said in Matthew 20:27-28 - “*And whoever desires to be first among you, let him be your slave — just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.*” Matthew 23:11-12 - *But he who is greatest among you shall be your servant. And whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.*

#6 – (v4b) Joseph was a LEADER! – Potiphar made Joseph an “overseer.” In regards to LEADERSHIP, an anonymous experienced leader wrote, “It is better to lead than to drive; better to pull than to push; better to ask than to demand; better to suggest than to insist; better to inspire than to compel; better to motivate than to manipulate.”

- A leader isn't born, he/she is developed in the school of hard knocks, in the field of adversity, schooled in defeat and vigilant in victory!

#7 – (v5a) Joseph's life was BLESSED! - In the beatitudes, Jesus uses the term “*Blessed*” some nine times, which speaks of “*happy*” or “*fulfilled!*” We should evaluate our lives by reading the beatitudes periodically, whereas, to maintain the proper ATTITUDE for life!

#8 – (v5b) Joseph liked to BLESS OTHERS! - Paul writes in Acts 20:35 - *And remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that He said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'*” Are you a giver or a taker?

#9 – (v6a) Joseph was TRUSTWORTHY! - Proverbs 22:1 - *A good name is to be chosen rather than great riches, loving favor rather than silver and gold.*

#10 – (v6b) Joseph was handsome in form and appearance! – Joseph took care of himself, eat right, sleep right, exercise. Strive to be healthy and well groomed.

#11 – (v7-8) Joseph was a man of VIRTUE! – Per the Merriam-Webster dictionary *Virtue* is defined as: *Conformity to a standard of right; moral excellence; strength or courage; a commendable quality or trait; merit; a capacity to act; potency.*

#12 – (v9) Joseph LOVED GOD! - Joseph was a **SANCTIFIED man!** – 1 Corinthians 6:9-19; Proverbs gives some strong warnings regarding the immoral woman in Proverbs 5:1-6; 6:23-29. 1 Corinthians 10:13 - *No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it.*

(v13-23) Keep verse 21 and 23 in your heart for the tough times: “But the LORD was with Joseph and showed him mercy, and He gave him favor in the sight of the keeper of the prison.”

- Verse 23, “*because the LORD was with him; and whatever he did, the LORD made it prosper.”*

> **Our Heavenly Father and our Lord Jesus Christ is with YOU and He has shown you MERCY! The LORD will make you PROSPER as you LIVE FOR HIM! Let's “GO FOR GOD!”**