

Study QUESTIONS

Ep.1230: Why Would God Bless Two Immoral Women?

<https://christianquestions.com/character/1230-tamar-rahab/>

See:  CQ.Rewind
SHOW NOTES

Tamar: Genesis, chapters 37 and 38

1. Who is Judah? What had Judah been involved in during the previous chapter in Genesis? Who were Judah's sons? What happened to Er and Onan? Who was Tamar? (See Genesis 37:18-36, 38:1-10)
2. Explain Levirate marriage. What was the purpose of this practice? Why would Onan not want to father a child for his brother? Why would Judah not want Shelah to marry Tamar? What was Tamar's status at this point in her life? Why did this severely limit her life?
3. Was Tamar guilty of any wrongdoing at this time? Who should have been her protector(s)? How did Tamar decide to improve her situation? Why might this have appeared to be a solution to her problems? Was this a good choice of action? Did God chastise her for this choice?
4. What happened when her pregnancy was discovered? What did Judah say was her punishment? What was Judah's punishment for getting her pregnant? Who does Judah say is in the wrong? Do we see growth in Judah over the course of his life? Explain.
5. Who were Tamar's children? What was odd about their birth? How do the twins foreshadow a much greater event at the time of Jesus? How was Tamar blessed? (See Genesis 49:10, Romans 10:19, 1 Peter 2:10, Hebrews 12:22-23)
6. How did Joseph view his slavery at the hands of Judah and his other brothers? Why might this story have been inserted in the middle of Joseph's story? (See Genesis 50:20)

Rahab: Joshua, chapters 2 and 6

7. How was Rahab, a Canaanite, involved with the Jews? What was Canaanite worship of their gods like? How did this story unfold?
8. What caused Rahab to connect with and protect the Hebrew spies? What did this reveal about her heart and her judgment of the Hebrew God? How is this an important lesson (and comfort) for us?
9. How were Rahab and her family delivered from the destruction of Jericho? How was the city defeated? What does the scarlet cord remind us of? How might it indicate Jesus' life and death?
10. What were the blessings of Rahab? What happened to Rahab after she was saved from Jericho?
11. How do the stories of Tamar and Rahab give you comfort and inspiration in your Christian life?