

# **Women of the Bible: Tamar & Rahab**

# Tamar (*Daughter-in-law of Judah*)

- Judah leaves Tamar to be a childless widow
  - v. 26 - “She is more righteous (*right*) than I, since I wouldn’t give her to my son Shelah.”
- Genesis 38 is a “comparison” chapter
  - Joseph sold into slavery (37) and resist’s Potiphar's wife (39)
    - “self-control” of Joseph vs. “indulgence” of Judah
  - God did not hide the “unsatisfactory” details

# What can we learn from Tamar's story?

- Tamar demonstrated *faithfulness* to:
  - Her culture, by marrying Er and Onan
  - Judah, by “honoring” his authority
- Numbers 32:23
  - “...be sure your sin will find you out”
- Romans 5:20
  - “But where sin abounded, grace abounded much more”

# Rahab (*Great-grandmother of David*)

- Joshua 2
  - The Israelites gather intel on the land they are about to conquer
- Spies are sent into Jericho
  - v. 20 – “for the LORD your God, He is God in heaven above and on earth beneath” (*Rahab*)
  - Rahab hides the spies on her roof and sends them out opposite of the search party
- Rahab, her family and possessions are spared during the Israelites’ attack on the city

# What can we learn from Rahab's story?

- Rahab demonstrated *faithfulness* to:
  - The LORD, by receiving the spies with peace (*Hebrews 11:31; James 2:25*)
  - The Israelite spies, by:
    - Not compromising the secret mission
    - Keeping the scarlet cord outside her window
    - Staying inside her house during the raid

# What can we learn from BOTH stories?

- God's providence should be one of the most comforting truth revealed to us.
  - Isaiah 14:27 - "For the LORD of hosts has purposed, and who will annul it?"
- No condemnation DOES NOT MEAN no consequences
  - Tamar AND Rahab suffered reputation damages
    - Other examples: "doubting Thomas" or "denying Peter"

# Titus 2:11-12

- For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age