

Intro:

Main Point of Text: God sees the wickedness of Judah and his family and gets involved in their short- and long-term needs.

Sermon Point: *We all need the Savior.*

Move 1: God has put the hope of future life in our hearts.

Vs. 8, 11. Levirate marriage an ancient custom. Later commanded in Deuteronomy 25:5.

Move 2: But man is totally depraved and won't get far in life.

This patriarch and the covenant family again give the Jews nothing to brag about:

- Judah's wickedness: vss. 1, 11, 15-17, 23-24, 26.
- Son's wickedness: vss. 7, 9-10.
- Tamar's wickedness: vss. 14, 16-18.

Move 3: And God Who sees everything will judge your life and take it.

Vs. 7, 10; Vs. 15 with 25-26.

Move 4: But God also is merciful.

Who wants this family heritage? Yet, it is the line of the Messiah!: Matthew 1:1-3. Notice *sovereign* grace of election again: Vs. 3; Pharez – not firstborn (Gen. 38:28-29). See also vss. 5, 6. Four women highlighted in Christ's genealogy (three fornicators, two not Israelites). Why? Same as today's text: vs. 21.

How is 38 related to Joseph? He will get His people out of Canaan before totally corrupted. Will come back as a nation to wipe the land clean. Just as Jesus will make us an eternal nation to inherit a cleansed earth.

Conclusion:

Romans 3:23-24; 6:23.

We all need the Savior.