

**MORE THAN A LIST OF NAMES**

**JUDAH AND TAMAR**

**MATTHEW 1  
GENESIS 38**

1. Tracking what line  
the Messiah would  
come from.

2. Practical point of  
keeping track for  
inheritance purposes.

Matthew 1:1-2

This is the genealogy of  
Jesus the Messiah, the son of  
David, the son of Abraham.

Abraham was the father of

Issac,

Issac was the father of

Jacob,

Jacob was the father of  
Judah and his brothers,

Judah the father of  
Perez and Zerah whose  
mother was Tamar.

# Jacob has 12 Sons

Reuben, Simeon, Levi,  
Judah, Zebulun ,  
Issachar, Dan, Gad,  
Asher, Naphtali,  
Joseph, and Benjamin.

## Genesis 37:26

Judah said to his brothers,  
“What will we gain if we kill  
our brother and cover up  
his blood? Come, let’s sell  
him to the Ishmaelites and  
not lay our hands on him.

After all he is our brother,  
our own flesh and blood.”

Matthew 1:3  
Judah the father of  
Perez and Zerah  
whose mother was  
Tamar.

## Genesis 38:2

There Judah met the daughter of a Canaanite man named Shua. He married her and made love to her; she became pregnant and gave birth to a son who was named Er. She conceived again and gave birth to a son Onan. She gave birth to still another son named Shelah.

## Genesis 38:6-7

Judah got a wife for Er,  
his firstborn, and her  
name was Tamar. But Er,  
Judah's firstborn, was  
wicked in the Lord's  
sight; so the Lord put  
him to death.

Genesis 38:8-10

Then Judah said to Onan,  
“Sleep with your brother’s  
wife and fulfill your duty  
to her as a brother-in-law  
to raise up offspring for  
your brother.”

But Onan knew that the child would not be his; so whenever he slept with his brothers wife, he spilled his semen on the ground to keep from providing offspring for his brother. What he did was wicked in the Lord's sight; so the Lord put him to death also.

# 1. Security Net for the Widow

2. Keep the Name /  
Line from Dying Out

# 3. Inheritance Purposes

“Onan knew that the  
child would not be his.”

Genesis 38:11

Judah then said to his daughter-in-law Tamar, “Live as a widow in your father’s household until my son Shelah grows up.”

For he thought, “He may die too, just like his brothers.”

So Tamar went to live in her father’s household.

## Genesis 38:15-19

When Judah saw her, he thought she was a prostitute, for she had covered her face. Not realizing that she was his daughter-in-law, he went over to her by the roadside and said, “Come now, let me sleep with you.”

“And what will you give me to sleep with you?” she asked.

“I’ll send you a young goat from my flock,” he said.

“Will you give me something as a pledge until you sent it?” she asked.

He said, “What pledge should I give you?”

“Your seal and its cord, and the staff in your hand,” she answered. So he gave them to her and slept with her, and she became pregnant by him. After she left, she took off her veil and put on her widow’s clothes again.

Genesis 38:24-26

About three months later,  
Judah was told, “Your  
daughter-in-law Tamar is  
guilty of prostitution, and as a  
result she is now pregnant.”

Judah said, “Bring her out and  
have her burned to death!”

As she was being brought out, she sent a message to her father-in-law. “I am pregnant by the man who owns these,” she said. And she added, “See if you recognize whose seal and cord and staff these are.”

Judah recognized them and said, “She is more righteous than I, since I wouldn’t give her my son Shelah.”

And he did not sleep with her again.

Responsibility leads  
to redemption and  
restoration.

Proverbs 24:12

Don't excuse yourself by  
saying, "Look we didn't know!"  
For God understands all hearts  
and He sees you. He who  
guards your soul knows you  
knew. He will repay all people  
as their actions deserve.

God chose Judah not  
because he was perfect or  
good.

But because in Judah the  
message of the gospel could  
be seen more clearly by us.

God came to redeem and  
restore.

