

Date: September 20, 2015

Title: Breaking Out a Family Mess

Text: Genesis 38:1-30

Introduction

God's grace breaks into sordid stories, including your own; let that cause humility and hope.

I. What is this sordid story?

Tamar and the outburst of injustice

II. Why should this story cause humility?

Judah and the outburst of humility

III. Why should this story lead to hope?

Perez and the outburst of salvation

“Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven, and whose sins are covered; blessed is the man against whom the Lord will not count his sin.”

(Psalm 32:1-2; Romans 4:7-8)

Conclusion

- Should we be surprised that our family relationships struggle? Why not?
- Why doesn't the Bible tone down horrible stories like this?
- Why is Judah's response good for us to take in?
- What does it say of God that Perez is the outcome (and in Matthew 1)?