

29. Judah, Tamar's Father-In-Law

When Tamar was told, "Your father-in-law is on his way to Timnah to shear his sheep," she took off her widow's clothes, covered herself with a veil to disguise herself, and then sat down at the entrance to Enaim ... on the road to Timnah. For she saw that, though Shelah had now grown up, she had not been given to him as his wife.

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 send 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 ... Meanwhile Judah sent the young goat by his friend the Adullamite in order to get his pledge back from the woman, but he did not find her ... "Let her keep what she has, or we will become a laughingstock ...

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 ... 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 to my son Shelah." ...

When the time came for her to give birth, there were twin boys in her womb... (Genesis 38:13-27 NIV)



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ADULLAMITE	GUILTY	SEAL
BROUGHT	HERSELF	SHEAR
CLOTHES	LAUGHINGSTOCK	SHEEP
CORD	MESSAGE	SHELAH
COVERED	MONTHS	SLEEP
DISGUISE	PLEDGE	SLEPT
FACE	PROSTITUTE	STAFF
FLOCK	RESULT	TAMAR
FRIEND	RIGHTEOUS	VEIL
GOAT	ROADSIDE	YOUNG