

## Genesis 38-40

### ***An overview of Chapter 38***

Judah marries a Canaanite woman and has several children with her. After his kids grow up Judah arranges a marriage for his oldest boy, but his oldest boy was evil, and God killed him, leaving his wife Tamar a widow. Judah then tells his next oldest boy to marry her, but he does not fulfill his duty, and God kills him. After seeing his two oldest sons die Judah tells Tamar that she can live with them as a widow but is afraid to tell another son to marry her.

Judah hires Tamar thinking she is a prostitute and he got her pregnant with twins. When he finds out what really happened, he declares that it was his fault; this happened, because he was acting unrighteous.

### ***An Overview of Chapter 39***

Meanwhile in Egypt Joseph the slave gets promoted to the overseer of Potiphar's house. The Lord blessed Joseph and Potiphar. Everyone was impressed with Joseph, especially Potiphar's wife, and she asks him to sleep with her. She repeats her request every time she sees him, until one day the two of them are alone in the house, and she grabs ahold of him. Joseph streaks out of house leaving his clothes behind. Potiphar's wife accuses him of attempting to sleep with her, so Joseph was put in jail.

Joseph is also very successful in jail, and the Lord blesses him. Soon, Joseph the prisoner became the jail house manager.

### ***An overview of Chapter 40***

While Joseph is in jail two of the Pharaoh's officials were put in jail with him. Joseph recognizes they are sad (sadder than a normal prisoner), and asks what is wrong. They both have bad dreams, and Joseph interprets them for him. The cupbearer is told that he will be restored to his position in three days, and the baker is told he will be killed in three days. When these things happen Joseph hopes that the cupbearer will tell Pharaoh about his talent.

### ***Reflection***

Are there any sins you have hidden in hopes that you will not be publicly humiliated? Have you repented of them? What past examples of unrighteousness have come back to haunt you later? What can Joseph's example teach you about success? Contentment? Happiness? Do you recognize the needs of others and try to help?

### ***For Further Study***

Marrying your brother's widow: Deuteronomy 25:5-11, Matthew 22:23-33

Fleeing sin: 1Corinthians 6:18, 10:13-14, 1Timothy 6:11, 2Timothy 2:22