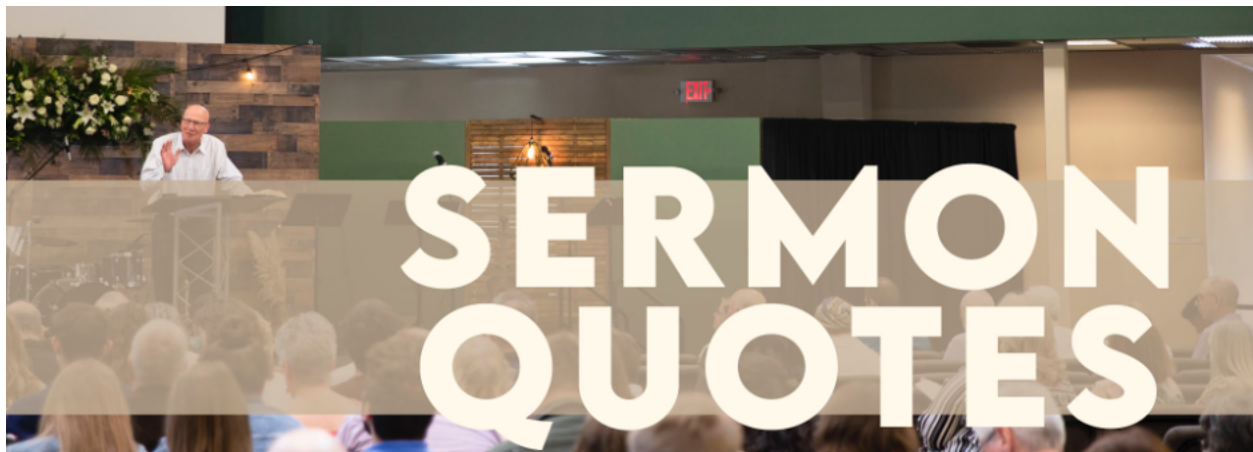




“The Bible presents the most realistic portrait of human sinfulness, exposing the depths of depravity that are hidden in private affairs.”

—Richard Phillips

“If brothers dwell together, and one of them dies and has no son, the wife of the dead man shall not be married outside the family to a stranger. Her husband’s brother shall go in to her and take her as his wife and perform the duty of a husband’s brother to her.”

—Deut. 25:5-6

“Onan, clearly, is a greedy, wicked individual. He does not wish to produce a son for his dead brother because then that son would be considered the firstborn and would get a double portion of Judah’s estate. As it is, Onan himself is now the firstborn who will inherit the double portion...Ultimately Onan’s sin is that his greed causes him to defy the Lord’s plan for Abraham’s family.” —Sidney Greidanus

“She rejects her Canaanite father’s house and remains loyal to Judah. Presumably she could have married a Canaanite man or have become a cult prostitute in a Canaanite temple, but Tamar remains true to her Israelite family in spite of its glaring failures and becomes absorbed

into it. Normally Canaanite women absorb Israelite men into their debased culture (Deu. 7:1,3).”—Bruce Waltke

“So this story, which at first sight seems so marginal to biblical history, records a vital link to saving history.” —Gordon Wenham

“Now these are the generations of Perez: Perez fathered Hezron...Boaz fathered Obed, Obed fathered Jesse, and Jesse fathered David.” —Ruth 4:18-22

“If Perez is a forefather of King David, then he is also a forefather of the Seed of the woman, Jesus Christ.” —Sidney Greidanus

“It is utterly astounding that Judah in connection with the twelve sons of Jacob has his name written on the gates of the heavenly Jerusalem (Rev. 21:12). He stands as a witness to God’s amazing grace. He fails as a son of the covenant (i.e., intermarrying with Canaanites and behaving like them), as a father (i.e., his sons are wicked), and as a father-in-law (i.e., deceiving Tamar). Even the worst of sinners can enter heaven by God’s redeeming grace.” — Bruce Waltke

“Chapter 38 contributes a vital element to the plot of Genesis, which is centered on identifying the ‘offspring of the woman’ who will overcome the serpent. In recognition of her role in sustaining the patriline, Tamar gains a noteworthy place in Matthew’s genealogy of Jesus (Matt 1:3).”—T. Desmond Alexander

“The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham. Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers, and Judah the father of Perez and Zerah by Tamar...” —Matthew 1:1-3