

The Gospel of the Lion of the Tribe of Judah [Ephesians 5:1-21](#); [Revelation 14:6-20](#); [Matthew 4:23](#); [9:35](#); [24:14](#); [Luke 4:18](#); [Isaiah 61](#)

Chapter thirty-eight is a strange chapter in the book of Genesis. To many, especially those who do not believe that God wrote the book, this chapter seems to be out of its place, Joseph's trials are interrupted by Judah's evil living. The LORD placed this chapter here, because although we have reached the last section of Genesis entitled the life of Joseph, the LORD is telling us that it is not really about Joseph, it is about his Antitype, Jesus Christ, the Lion of the tribe of Judah; and this is His Gospel. ([Revelation 5:1-10](#))

I. The position of chapter 38 in the Bible

A. Three Passages that point out this scope

God placed chapter 38 where it is, as He does throughout the Bible, so He can orchestrate His Scope, of revealing His Son throughout every Word, (chapter and verse) of the entire Bible. Three Passages that explain His scope come to mind immediately, they are: ([Psalm 40:7-15](#); [Luke 24:44-46](#); [Hebrews 10:7-39](#)). Now, these three verses have been interpreted wrongly (without God's purpose even being mentioned) and many sermons and studies have taken these verses to only mean Christ's First Advent. These do concern Christ's First Advent, but God doesn't stop His thinking at the "here and now" or to a single event only. The LORD sees the entire picture from eternity to eternity. All three of these Passages depict a time beginning at some point and take us right through time to the Kingdom, if we treat the Word as it should be treated - **in context**. Even the time in which these three verses were written are instructive, such as; Psalms was written approximately 1000 years before Christ became a man, but speaks about that time beginning from Old Testament times with God no longer desiring animal sacrifices, to Christ on the cross, and ends the chapter with His brethren that want him to die experience the shame that will bring them back to Christ ([Zechariah 12:1-12](#)); Luke takes place after Christ has died and resurrected, but continues on through the future by demonstrating that in every Book of the Old Testament it is written of Him; and the Hebrews Passage begins after Christ had ascended the second time and takes His place at the right hand of the Father as High Priest, on through to the New Covenant made with Israel and Judah, bringing them back to Christ ([also see Jeremiah 31:29-40](#)), and continues on to the Kingdom.

B. The broader scope of the Bible depicts Christ from everlasting

On the broader scope, many think that [Genesis 3:15](#) is the first clear picture of the Messiah in the Bible and attribute it only to the cross. But that "Battle of the seeds" continues to the end of the Kingdom (after taking a brief 1000 year hiatus when Satan is chained) until Satan is cast into the lake of fire along with the antichrist and the false prophet. There had been many allusions to Christ during Creation, after all He is the Creator, but the last part of chapter two, after Adam had found that no animal could be an help meet, the LORD presented Adam a bride [Genesis 2:20-24](#), but this is a typical prophecy of Christ presenting Himself His bride before the Tribulation begins. ([Ephesians 5:21-33](#))

II. Judah lives and acts like a Canaanite – An unlikely forefather of Christ –

We have already seen this trait in Judah after Joseph was in the pit ([Genesis 37:26-27](#))

[Genesis 38:1](#) And it came to pass at that time, that Judah went down from his brethren, and turned in to a certain Adullamite, whose name was Hirah.

[Genesis 38:2](#) And Judah saw there a daughter of a certain Canaanite, whose name was Shuah; and he took her, and went in unto her.

A. Judah and his Canaanite wife have three sons (Er, Onan, and Shelah)

[Genesis 38:3](#) And she conceived, and bare a son; and he called his name Er.

[Genesis 38:4](#) And she conceived again, and bare a son; and she called his name Onan.

[Genesis 38:5](#) And she yet again conceived, and bare a son; and called his name Shelah: and he was at Chezib, when she bare him.

B. Er Marries Tamar and dies

Genesis 38:6 And Judah took a wife for Er his firstborn, whose name *was* Tamar.

Genesis 38:7 And Er, Judah's firstborn, was wicked in the sight of the LORD; and the LORD slew him.

C. Onan needs to be the kinsman redeemer

Genesis 38:8 And Judah said unto Onan, Go in unto thy brother's wife, and marry her, and raise up seed to thy brother.

D. The Kinsman Redeemer is placed in the Law later, but was a custom in Israel before

Deuteronomy 25:5 If brethren dwell together, and one of them die, and have no child, the wife of the dead shall not marry without unto a stranger: her husband's brother shall go in unto her, and take her to him to wife, and perform the duty of an husband's brother unto her.

Deuteronomy 25:6 And it shall be, *that* the firstborn which she beareth shall succeed in the name of his brother *which is* dead, that his name be not put out of Israel.

Deuteronomy 25:7 And if the man like not to take his brother's wife, then let his brother's wife go up to the gate unto the elders, and say, My husband's brother refuseth to raise up unto his brother a name in Israel, he will not perform the duty of my husband's brother.

Deuteronomy 25:8 Then the elders of his city shall call him, and speak unto him: and *if* he stand *to it*, and say, I like not to take her;

Deuteronomy 25:9 Then shall his brother's wife come unto him in the presence of the elders, and loose his shoe from off his foot, and spit in his face, and shall answer and say, So shall it be done unto that man that will not build up his brother's house.

Deuteronomy 25:10 And his name shall be called in Israel, The house of him that hath his shoe loosed.

E. Another want-a-be kinsman redeemer needs to be shoe loosed - but dies

Genesis 38:9 And Onan knew that the seed should not be his; and it came to pass, when he went in unto his brother's wife, that he spilled *it* on the ground, lest that he should give seed to his brother.

Genesis 38:10 And the thing which he did displeased the LORD: wherefore he slew him also.

F. Judah is deceitful in reserving Tamar for Shelah

Genesis 38:11 Then said Judah to Tamar his daughter in law, Remain a widow at thy father's house, till Shelah my son be grown: for he said, Lest peradventure he die also, as his brethren *did*. And Tamar went and dwelt in her father's house.

Genesis 38:12 And in process of time the daughter of Shuah Judah's wife died; and Judah was comforted, and went up unto his sheepshearers to Timnath, he and his friend Hirah the Adullamite.

Genesis 38:13 And it was told Tamar, saying, Behold thy father in law goeth up to Timnath to shear his sheep.

Genesis 38:14 And she put her widow's garments off from her, and covered her with a vail, and wrapped herself, and sat in an open place, which *is* by the way to Timnath; for she saw that Shelah was grown, and she was not given unto him to wife.

G. Tamar deceives Judah

Genesis 38:15 When Judah saw her, he thought her *to be* an harlot; because she had covered her face.

Genesis 38:16 And he turned unto her by the way, and said, Go to, I pray thee, let me come in unto thee; (for he knew not that she *was* his daughter in law.) And she said, What wilt thou give me, that thou mayest come in unto me?

Genesis 38:17 And he said, I will send *thee* a kid from the flock. And she said, Wilt thou give *me* a pledge, till thou send *it*?

Genesis 38:18 And he said, What pledge shall I give thee? And she said, Thy signet, and thy bracelets, and thy staff that *is* in thine hand. And he gave *it* her, and came in unto her, and she conceived by him.

Genesis 38:19 And she arose, and went away, and laid by her vail from her, and put on the garments of her widowhood.

Genesis 38:20 And Judah sent the kid by the hand of his friend the Adullamite, to receive *his* pledge from the woman's hand: but he found her not.

Genesis 38:21 Then he asked the men of that place, saying, Where *is* the harlot, that *was* openly by the way side? And they said, There was no harlot in this *place*.

Genesis 38:22 And he returned to Judah, and said, I cannot find her; and also the men of the place said, *that* there was no harlot in this *place*.

Genesis 38:23 And Judah said, Let her take *it* to her, lest we be shamed: behold, I sent this kid, and thou hast not found her.

H. Judah's sin and deception exposed

Genesis 38:24 And it came to pass about three months after, that it was told Judah, saying, Tamar thy daughter in law hath played the harlot; and also, behold, she *is* with child by whoredom. And Judah said, Bring her forth, and let her be burnt.

Genesis 38:25 When she *was* brought forth, she sent to her father in law, saying, By the man, whose these *are*, am I with child: and she said, Discern, I pray thee, whose *are* these, the signet, and bracelets, and staff.

Genesis 38:26 And Judah acknowledged *them*, and said, She hath been more righteous than I; because that I gave her not to Shelah my son. And he knew her again no more.

III. Tamar bears twins, Pharez and Zarah – The Breach and the scarlet thread

Genesis 38:27 And it came to pass in the time of her travail, that, behold, twins *were* in her womb.

Genesis 38:28 And it came to pass, when she travailed, that *the one* put out *his* hand: and the midwife took and bound upon his hand a scarlet thread, saying, This came out first.

Genesis 38:29 And it came to pass, as he drew back his hand, that, behold, his brother came out: and she said, How hast thou broken forth? *this* breach *be* upon thee: therefore his name was called Pharez.

Genesis 38:30 And afterward came out his brother, that had the scarlet thread upon his hand: and his name was called Zarah.

The genealogy Record of Pharez (Who came out first) and Zarah (Who had the scarlet thread):

[Genesis 46:12](#); [Numbers 26:20-22](#); [Luke 3:30-33](#); [Matthew 1:1-17](#)

IV. The Everlasting Gospel – [Revelation 14.6-20](#)

A. To explain the Gospel we need to go from Genesis through Revelation – [Isaiah 40](#)

[I Corinthians 15:1](#) Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand;

[I Corinthians 15:2](#) By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain.

[I Corinthians 15:3](#) For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures;

[I Corinthians 15:4](#) And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:

B. Christ's Resurrection - A great cloud of witnesses saw Him alive after the crucifixion

[I Corinthians 15:5](#) And that he was seen of Cephas, then of the twelve:

[I Corinthians 15:6](#) After that, he was seen of above five hundred brethren at once; of whom the greater part remain unto this present, but some are fallen asleep.

[I Corinthians 15:7](#) After that, he was seen of James; then of all the apostles.

[I Corinthians 15:8](#) And last of all he was seen of me also, as of one born out of due time.

[I Corinthians 15:9](#) For I am the least of the apostles, that am not meet to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God.

I Corinthians 15:10 But by the grace of God I am what I am: and his grace which *was bestowed* upon me was not in vain; but I laboured more abundantly than they all: yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me.

C. The great cloud preaches and people believe from the Word

I Corinthians 15:11 Therefore whether *it were* I or they, so we preach, and so ye believed.

D. It is vanity that makes someone deny the Resurrection when such a group witnessed it

I Corinthians 15:12 Now if Christ be preached that he rose from the dead, how say some among you that there is no resurrection of the dead?

I Corinthians 15:13 But if there be no resurrection of the dead, then is Christ not risen:

I Corinthians 15:14 And if Christ be not risen, then *is* our preaching vain, and your faith *is* also vain.

I Corinthians 15:15 Yea, and we are found false witnesses of God; because we have testified of God that he raised up Christ: whom he raised not up, if so be that the dead rise not.

I Corinthians 15:16 For if the dead rise not, then is not Christ raised:

I Corinthians 15:17 And if Christ be not raised, your faith *is* vain; ye are yet in your sins.

I Corinthians 15:18 Then they also which are fallen asleep in Christ are perished.

I Corinthians 15:19 If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable.

E. Now, because of the Resurrection – All shall be made alive

I Corinthians 15:20 But now is Christ risen from the dead, *and* become the firstfruits of them that slept.

I Corinthians 15:21 For since by man *came* death, by man *came* also the resurrection of the dead.

I Corinthians 15:22 For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive.

F. When will this happen – In what order

I Corinthians 15:23 But every man in his own order: Christ the firstfruits; afterward they that are Christ's at his coming.

I Corinthians 15:24 Then *cometh* the end, when he shall have delivered up the kingdom to God, even the Father; when he shall have put down all rule and all authority and power.

I Corinthians 15:25 For he must reign, till he hath put all enemies under his feet.

I Corinthians 15:26 The last enemy *that* shall be destroyed *is* death.

G. All things will be put under Him

I Corinthians 15:27 For he hath put all things under his feet. But when he saith, all things are put under *him*, *it is* manifest that he is excepted, which did put all things under him.

H. Then God will be all in all – As was prophesied in Ephesians 5 and Genesis 2

I Corinthians 15:28 And when all things shall be subdued unto him, then shall the Son also himself be subject unto him that put all things under him, that God may be all in all.

I Corinthians 15:29 Else what shall they do which are baptized for the dead, if the dead rise not at all? why are they then baptized for the dead?

I Corinthians 15:30 And why stand we in jeopardy every hour?

I. Don't rejoice for the things of this world, it would all be worthless if Christ had not risen

I Corinthians 15:31 I protest by your rejoicing which I have in Christ Jesus our Lord, I die daily.

I Corinthians 15:32 If after the manner of men I have fought with beasts at Ephesus, what advantageth it me, if the dead rise not? let us eat and drink; for to morrow we die.

J. Evil speaking affects what we do

I Corinthians 15:33 Be not deceived: evil communications corrupt good manners.

I Corinthians 15:34 Awake to righteousness, and sin not; for some have not the knowledge of God: I speak *this* to your shame.

K. Some argue How and Why

I Corinthians 15:35 But some *man* will say, How are the dead raised up? and with what body do they come?

I Corinthians 15:36 *Thou* fool, that which thou sowest is not quickened, except it die:

I Corinthians 15:37 And that which thou sowest, thou sowest not that body that shall be, but bare grain, it may chance of wheat, or of some other *grain*:

I Corinthians 15:38 But God giveth it a body as it hath pleased him, and to every seed his own body.

I Corinthians 15:39 All flesh *is* not the same flesh: but *there is* one *kind of* flesh of men, another flesh of beasts, another of fishes, *and* another of birds.

I Corinthians 15:40 *There are* also celestial bodies, and bodies terrestrial: but the glory of the celestial *is* one, and the *glory* of the terrestrial *is* another.

I Corinthians 15:41 *There is* one glory of the sun, and another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars: for *one* star differeth from *another* star in glory.

L. Each body after its kind, The resurrection is sown in corruption, but raise incorruption

I Corinthians 15:42 So also *is* the resurrection of the dead. It is sown in corruption; it is raised in incorruption:

I Corinthians 15:43 It is sown in dishonour; it is raised in glory: it is sown in weakness; it is raised in power:

I Corinthians 15:44 It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body. There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body.

M. It is written – where? In Genesis – to explain the resurrection must go back to Genesis

I Corinthians 15:45 And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam *was made* a quickening spirit.

I Corinthians 15:46 Howbeit that *was* not first which is spiritual, but that which is natural; and afterward that which is spiritual.

I Corinthians 15:47 The first man *is* of the earth, earthy: the second man *is* the Lord from heaven.

I Corinthians 15:48 As *is* the earthy, such *are* they also that are earthy: and as *is* the heavenly, such *are* they also that are heavenly.

And, because of the Resurrection, this earthly shall bear the image of the heavenly

I Corinthians 15:49 And as we have borne the image of the earthy, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly.

N. But not everybody will bear the heavenly – corruption does not inherit incorruption

I Corinthians 15:50 Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption.

O. A mystery revealed – to explain the resurrection we went from Genesis to the Rapture

I Corinthians 15:51 Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed,

I Corinthians 15:52 In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

I Corinthians 15:53 For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal *must* put on immortality.

I Corinthians 15:54 So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory.

I Corinthians 15:55 O death, where *is* thy sting? O grave, where *is* thy victory?

I Corinthians 15:56 The sting of death *is* sin; and the strength of sin *is* the law.

I Corinthians 15:57 But thanks *be* to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

P. Therefore

I Corinthians 15:58 Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.