

Dina and Tamar:

Broken and Abandoned Beauties

(Genesis 34:1-31; 46:15 and 2 Samuel 13:1-39; Psalm 10)

I. THE SIN OF RAPE

A. THE ISSUES

1. **Lawlessness** (1 Jn 3:4)—*refusal to be restrained by the Law of God*
2. **Selfishness** (1 Cor 10:24 & 13:5; Phil 2:3-4)—*using a person for sexual gratification, no concern for her/his feelings, future, wellbeing*
 - a. **Sexual Entitlement** (1 Pet 3:7; Eph 5:25)—*I have a right!*
 - b. **Lack of Self-control** (Gal 5:23; 2 Tim 3:3; Titus 2:2, 6)—*I can't help it*
3. **Dehumanization**—*Rape overrides the will of another person and violates the sanctity of her/his body and personality.*
 - a. **Violence** (Mat 11:29 & 21:5; Eph 4:2; Gal 5:23; 2 Cor 10:1; 1 Tim 3:3; Titus 1:7)—*Gentleness is the fruit of the Holy Spirit.*
 - b. **Coercion** (Ps 73:8; Hab 2:15;)—*forcing a person to do something against their will without physical violence*
 - ➔ *If you were powerless to resist, terrified into acquiescing, or a child who was exploited, IT WAS NOT YOUR FAULT.*

B. THE COMPLICATION OF INCEST (2 Sam 13:1-2)—*violates family relationship*

1. **Stigma** adds to the sense of shame.
2. **Silence** hinders the victim's ability to heal.
3. **Secrecy** allows the abuser to continue abusing.

C. BLAMING THE VICTIM (2 Sam 13:15-17)—

1. Abusers project their guilt.—*attempt to justify themselves*
2. Victims often blame themselves.—*attempt to not be powerless*
3. Other people blame the victim.—*attempt to minimize the horror*
4. **Jesus says the man is responsible for his own lust.** (Mat 5:27-28; 1 Tim 5:2)—*the way he looks at a woman and thinks about her*

D. STIGMA TO THE VICTIM (Gen 34:2, 5, 13, 31; 46:15; 1 Sam 13:13, 19-21)— disgraced, defiled, ruined, unfit, unworthy, stained, broken...

II. **THE FAILURE OF MEN**

A. **As Fathers** (2 Sam 13:20-22)—David was angry but did nothing.

1. His failure to validate his daughter
2. His failure to discipline his son
3. His personal moral failure—*undercut his own moral authority*

B. **As Brothers** (Gen 34:7, 13, 25-31; 2 Sam 13:1-2; 20-21)

1. Abusive Brothers—Amnon
2. Self-Absorbed Brothers—Simeon and Levi
3. Imperfect Brothers—Absalom

III. **THE ANSWER OF JESUS**

A. **THE FATHER GREATER THAN DAVID** (Acts 2:17; 5:14; 8:12)

Values daughters & sons equally; does not abandon His daughters to disgrace; will discipline with justice

B. **THE BROTHER GREATER THAN ABSALOM** (Isa 61:3)

Comforts His broken sisters; takes us into His home and provides for us

C. **THE SON OF MAN WHO IS WORTHY TO JUDGE** (Ps 9:12; Psalm 10; Dan 7:13-14; Jn 5:27; Rom 12:19; Heb 10:30; Rev 5:5) He is All-Knowing, Righteous, Incorruptible, Fair

D. **THE COMFORTER AND HEALER OF WOMEN** (Isa 61:1-4; Mk 16:9; Lk 8:1-3)

Women He had healed and out of whom He had cast demons followed Him.

E. **NOTHING CAN SEPARATE US FROM HIS LOVE** (Rom 8:35-39) Not even rape.

Listen to "Lord From Sorrows Deep I Call," (Lament from Psalm 42) – Matt Papa and Matt Boswell
<https://youtu.be/KYGhnbXtqbU>

Lesson 9: Dinah and Tamar

Read Genesis 30:19-21; 33:18-34:-31 and 2 Samuel 13:1-32; 14:27.

1. What kind of person was Shechem son of Hamor?
2. What did Dinah do that caused her to be raped?
3. How do Dinah's brothers respond to the news of her rape? What was their motive for acting as they did?
4. What kind of person was Amnon son of David, the half brother of Tamar?
5. What did Tamar do that put her in a position where she could be raped?
6. How does Tamar express her grief and pain after the rape? Why does she do this?
7. How do we know that Absalom loved his sister?
8. Is Absalom's advice to Tamar to be quiet and not take it to heart *good* advice? Why or why not?
9. Consider King David's response to the rape of Tamar by Amnon.
 - a.) What does he do about it?
 - b.) What are the consequences of his treatment of the situation?
10. Does the fact that Tamar's rape was committed by someone within her own family change the nature or stigma of the offense?
11. How is a woman who has been raped viewed:
 - a.) By people in biblical times?
 - b.) In Islamic cultures today?
 - c.) In American culture today?
12. How does Jesus view a woman who has been raped? (Consider the stories you know of Jesus and consult Matthew 7:14-23; Isaiah 53:4 & 61:1; Psalm 34:18 & 147:3.)