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Doctrinal Studies Bible Church
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Study: Divine Judgment upon the World

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MESSAINIC MOTHERS

Today's lesson is an extension from Tuesday's lesson entitled, [Bitter-Sweet of Motherhood](#) of Gen.3:16.

We were studying that women (believers) were the receiver, carrier and preserver of the hope of the coming SEED - Christ, Savior of the world (Gen.3:15-16; Matt.1:20-23; 1 Tim.2:14-15).

What is sometimes lost in the messianic lineage of Christ is the importance of the role of the **MESSIANIC MOTHERS** in the fulfillment of the proto-evangelism (first gospel) of Gen.3:15-16.

Another thing that is sometimes lost is that three of these **Messianic Mothers** were GENTILES. Matthew mentioned five women in his genealogy of Christ and three of them were Gentiles: **Tamar** (Gen.1:3); **Rahab** (Gen.1:5a) and **Ruth** (Gen.1:5b).

Eve was the first Messianic Mother in the prophetic lineage of Jesus Christ (Gen.3:15-16, 20). Her Messianic Seed is listed as Seth (Luke 3:38; Gen.4). Twenty three (23) Messianic Seeds later we get to Judah (Luke 3:38-33) and Tamar of Matt.1:3.

Today's lesson will study the three Gentile Messianic Mothers listed in Matt.1:1-5.
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1. There is a story behind Tamar, a Canaanite Gentile, becoming a Messianic Mother in the lineage of Christ found in Gen.38 (Matt.1:3).

Canaanites came from Ham, son of Noah (Gen.10:6, 15-20).

National religion of the Canaanites was the phallic cult of Baal worship.

- Judah left his brothers and married a Canaanite woman and had three sons (Er, Onan, and Shelah). The older son, Er, married Tamar but died childless under the sin unto death (Gen.38:1-7; 1 John 5:16).
- Under Levirate law of Deut.25:5-10, the next brother, Onan, married Tamar and also died childless under the sin unto death (Gen.38:8-10).
- Judah asks her to wait for the youngest son to become marriageable. But when it was time, Judah didn't do it and during this time Judah's wife died (Gen.38:11-12).
- Tamar took matters into her own hands and posed as a temple prostitute and had sex with Judah and became pregnant with his twins (Gen.38:15-26).
- When the first twin stuck his hand out of the womb the midwife tied a **scarlet string** to Zerah, but he withdrew it and the Perez came out first (Gen.38:27-30).

Listen to Judah, "She is more righteous than I, inasmuch as I did not give her to my son Shelah" (Gen.38:26). Thus Judah became the Goel of the Levirate Seed with Tamar (Matt.1:3).

Principle: "Many are the plans in a man's heart, but it is the Lord's purpose that prevails."
(Prov.19:21, NIV)

2. There is a story behind Rahab a Canaanite Gentile, becoming a Messianic Mother in the lineage of Christ found in Joshua 2 (Matt.1:5a).

Rahab was a smart business woman. Her Hebrew name means harlot or slang, broad. Because of God-consciousness, she became-aware of the Lord God's presence with the Hebrews (Josh.2:9-11).

- She protected two Hebrew spies and was given "Pledge of Truth" by them (Josh.2:12-14) "Our lives for your lives."
- They gave her a sign of the **scarlet cord** of protection (Josh.2:17-21) Note: similar to the red blood of shadow Christology on doorpost in Egypt (Ex.12).
- She is mentioned as a woman of faith in Heb.11:31 and James 2:25 (Rom.10:17).
- Historians believe she married one of those spies, named Salmon (tribe of Judah) (Matt.1:5; Ruth 4:21).
- Rahab and Salmon became the parents of **Obed**. Obed is the husband of the next Messianic Mother, Ruth.

Principle: "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding." (Prov.9:10)

3. There is a story behind, Ruth, a Gentile Moabite, becoming a Messianic Mother in the lineage of Christ found in Book by her name (Matt.1:5b).

Moabites were children from incest between older daughter and Lot (Gen.19:30-36; 11:27; Deut.2:9). The national religion was phallic cult of Baal worship (Num.25:1-3; 1 Kings 11:2-7).

- Elimelech and Naomi left Bethlehem of Judah with their sons because of war and famine and went to Moab (Ruth1:1-5) [tribe of Judah] (Matt.1:3-6). The two older sons married Moabite women (Orpah and Ruth).
- Within a 10 year period, Naomai had buried her husband and two sons; and was planning on returning to Bethlehem alone (Ruth 1:6-14). But Ruth refused because of spiritual growth maturity (Ruth 1:15-22).

Ruth 2-4 is all about Ruth, the Moabite widow, and Boaz, the son of Rahab the harlot. **One again, it is a story of God's amazing grace in Christ working in lives of these two people.** Both of these spiritual mature believers understood it was a match made in heaven. Boaz was also of the tribe of Judah.

Like Tama, her marriage will require going through the Levirate marriage law (Deut.25:5-10). Ruth had quietly gone about building her reputation in Christ. Boaz about Ruth - **"For all my people in the city know you are a woman of excellence."** (Ruth 3:11b; Prov.31; 1 Pet.3:4)

I believe the night Boaz proposed to Ruth she wore a **scarlet cloak or shawl** made from flax (Ruth 3:15; Josh.2:6).

Principle: "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight." (Prov.3:5-6)