

WAIT ON THE LORD

In this lesson, we have two spiritually advancing adult believers who are **unwilling** to Wait on the Lord to fulfill His Directive Will for their lives (Judah and Tamar).

These two believers have chosen to stop walking by faith and to take have decided to take God's matters into their hands. They were **unwilling** to Wait on the Lord to execute His Will in His Perfect Timing in their lives.

(Ps.27:14) “**Wait on the Lord; Be strong and let your heart take courage; Yes, wait on the Lord.**”

Judah ran away from the directive will of God regarding the Abrahamic Covenant of Gen.12:1-3 (land, seed, and blessings. (Gen.37) [Joseph and Jacob]

(Gen.38:1) “Judah **departed from** his brothers and visited a certain Adullamite, whose name was Hirah.”

**This lesson will study five aspects of Judah and Tamar's problem
of walking by faith and Waiting on the Lord.**

1. In arriving in Adullam, Judah sought the council of a Canaanite businessman named, Hirah.

He sought his help in securing a wife for himself named, Bath-shua the Canaanite (1 Chron.2:3), as well as a wife named, Tamar for his firstborn son, Er (Gen.38:1-3, 6).

Er died the sin unto death for refusing to propagate the lineage of Christ (Gen.38:6-7; 1 John 5:16). Onan, the second son of Judah became the Goel of the Levirate marriage to Tamar. But he died the death unto death for the same reason as Er (Gen.38:8-10).

This left Judah's last son, Shelah, as the Goel to Tamar (Gal.3:16). Judah made a legal covenant vow to Tamar of Shelah for Levirate marriage (Gen.38:11). Based on this promise, Tamar went to her father's home **to wait** as a widow of Levirate marriage until Shelah became legal age.

2. We will examine our lesson text by the following seven homiletical points on Waiting for the Lord.

(Gen.38:12a) Shua died – big issue to this story

(Gen.38:12b) Shearing of sheep trip

(Gen.38:13-14) Shelah is grown and legal age for Levirate marriage - big issue to story

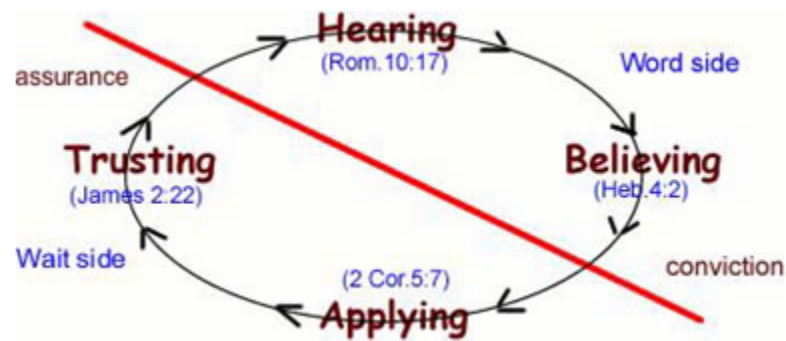
(Gen.38:15-19) Sexual encounter and pledge

(Gen.38:20-23) Shrine prostitute – laughingstock – 3 months later

(Gen.38:24-26a) Seal with cord and staff pledge – big issue to story

(Gen.38:26b) Sexual abstinence – “And he did not have relations with her again.” (next lesson)

3. Waiting on the Lord will require applying the faith rest technique to the faith cycle (Ps.27:14).



Six Questions:

- Who is in charge of the Directive Will? (Rom.4:21)
- What is the Directive Will in this story?
- Why are they unwilling to **Wait on the Lord** to fulfill His Directive Will?
- How had the Lord shown them that He was in charge of the Directive Will with Er and Onan?
- What was the conflict between Judah and Tamar regarding the directive will?
- What can we learn regarding the application of Directive Will to our lives?

4. **God's timing is always perfect in the execution of the Plan of God. "Now after a considerable time." (Gen.38:12a) Who is counting the days and time in this story?**

(Rom.14:5-6a) "One person regards one day above another, another regards every day alike. **Each person** must be fully convinced in his own mind. He who observes the day, **observes it for the Lord.**"

Here are some absolutes. "There is an **appointed time** for everything. And there is a time for every event under heaven." (Eccl.3:1, 11)

(Eccl.3:15) "That which is has been already and that which will be has already been, **for God seeks what has passed by.**" **NASB footnote:** "God has ordained the continual cycle of the events of life, the same thought as in verse 1."

(Eph.5:15-17) "Therefore be careful how you walk, not as unwise men but as wise, **making the most of your time**, because the days are evil. **So then** do not be foolish, but **understand what the will of the Lord is.**"

5. **Both Judah and Tamar are aware of God's Directive Will and Perfect Timing but both are unwilling to Wait on the Lord for the fulfillment of it (Rom.12:1-2; Col.4:12; 1 Pet.3:17).**

- Shelah is grown and the time has come for action. They **both** attempt to force the timing to fit their own agenda and expectations rather than God's.
- They have **both** become subjective with their will rather than objective with Directive Will of God.
- Shelah is not given a volitional choice regarding God's Will for him. Judah has taken him out of the equation. Therefore, the Directive Will of a seed for the lineage of Christ falls on Judah.
- Now the Over-Ruling Will of God will be applied to Judah and not to Shelah (**next lesson**).