



GENESIS 38 - 39

The Providence of God

“It happened at that time.... This break in the Joseph narrative not only heightens the tension, it also gives readers a deeper awareness of the prolonged suffering of Joseph, his father, and his brothers. We get to experience with Joseph “the comfortless darkness of the two decades, during which hopeless and sorrowful longing was gnawed at the heart of the aged father, and the secret of deadly sin deceitfully concealed was weighing on the souls of his children.” (Sidney Greidanus, *Preaching Christ from Genesis*)

As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today. (Genesis 50:20)

The Background

Approximately ____ years take place in the first 11 verses of Genesis 38.

Judah's Descent (Genesis 38)

Judah _____ from the LORD and his _____ to fulfill Gods promises to Abraham.

The LORD used Tamar's _____ of disobedient Judah to continue Judah's family line.

Joseph's Descent (Genesis 39)

The LORD was with Joseph and _____ to be faithful to his covenant promises to Abraham to bless the families of the earth (Genesis 12, Genesis 17:7-8).

Even in the _____ of circumstances, Joseph remained _____ to the LORD.

Repentance and Righteousness (Genesis 38-39)

Judah's _____ ended with _____ and a change of heart (Genesis 38:26).

Joseph's _____ shined as God continued to be with Joseph and bless him in all seasons of life (Genesis 39).

The Gospel

Joseph maintained _____ regardless of his situation (Colossians 3:17, 1 Peter 2:17).

Joseph _____ when temptation was at his doorstep (1 Peter 5:6-11, Ephesians 6).

Joseph was _____ by God to _____ God's people and bring about his promises (Galatians 3:13-14).

God used _____ and _____ instead of Joseph to produce the line of the _____, reminding us that the Savior came to save even the worst of sinners (Matt 1:1-16).