

# A Story Not Taught in Sunday School

April 27, 2025

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2 Samuel 13:1-22

Oak Community Church (PCA)

## A Story Where God is Not Mentioned

- 4 primary characters introduced in v1
- Absalom - David's 3<sup>rd</sup> son - story ends up being about him
- Tamar - beautiful virgin; Absalom's sister
- Amnon - David's 1<sup>st</sup> born - 'loved' Tamar his forbidden half-sister<sup>Lev18:9</sup>
- David - blessed through covenant love, but dealing with consequences of sin<sup>2S12:9-10</sup>

## Desire Dealt With Poorly

- Amnon - a man sick with love for half-sister
- not a proper biblical love - other centered, but selfish lustful love
- Society often 'redefines' things<sup>Isa5:20</sup> this was not love, but lust
- True Love is wanting the absolute best for the object of your love regardless of the cost to you- Jesus<sup>1Jn3:16</sup>,
- Amnon's love focused on what he wanted, not Tamar's good

## A Dangerous Cunning Friend

- Jonadab was not a good friend, he was crafty
- He should have warned Amnon of dangers, not encouraged sin & deceit

## A Naive or Foolish Father

- Amnon duped David to get what he wanted
- David seems to not be teaching or training his sons
- David sent Tamar to Amnon<sup>7</sup>

## Love Turned to Hate

- Focus of the story is v15 - love turns to hate
- Hebrew Chiasm structure:
  - A: 1-4 Amnon "loves" with Tamar
  - B: 5-9a Tamar comes to Amnon's house & bakes bread for him
  - C: 9b-10 Amnon orders servants out to be alone w/ Tamar
  - D: 11-14a Amnon commands Tamar to lie with him - she pleads & warns
  - E: 14b-15 Amnon rapes Tamar - his "love" for her turns to hate
  - d: 15b-16 Amnon orders her "Get up, Go!"
  - c: 17 Amnon orders servant in to lock Tamar out
  - b: 18-19 Tamar leaves Amnon's house mourning her fate
  - a: 20-22 Absalom hates Amnon for having raped his sister, Tamar
- Tamar appealed w/ Amnon multiple ways, even marriage
- Amnon overpowers her...
- Amnon commanded Tamar to *come lie with me*, then *Get up, get out*
- Amnon's false love is revealed, it was never love, it was selfish & self-centered

## Many Responses to Wickedness

- Tamar then tears robes; puts ashes on head; and cries aloud publicly<sup>19</sup>
- Absalom doesn't call for justice, but tells her '*not take this to heart*'
- King David was very angry – but did nothing - no justice - that was the king's job
- David likely considered himself broken, though he had received God's forgiveness
- David's failure to act means Amnon went unpunished; Tamar lived a desolate life; and Absalom became an angry man

## So What?

- Narrative is part of David's story - David is merely a human sinner - we need Savior
- We must look to God's provision, Davidic promise - Jesus Christ!
- Parents – don't be passive & lazy – lead & teach your children
- If only David taught them about repentance, confession & forgiveness in God
- Gospel = complete forgiveness through Christ! Rom 6:14;7:24;8:1-6