

Behind the Scenes of Christmas
Some Knots in the Family Tree
Matthew 1:1-6

Sunday, December 22, 2013

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Four women:

- Tamar - the d e c e i v i n g "prostitute" (Matt 1:3; Gen 38)
- Rahab - the l y i n g prostitute (Matt 1:5; Josh 2; 6:25)
- Ruth - an i n c e s t u o u s past
(Matt 1:5; Gen 19; Ruth 1-4; Deut 23:3)
- Bathsheba - the dishonest a d u l t e r e s s
(Matt 1:6; 2 Sam 11)

They speak to Christmas which reminds us:

Jesus came to s a v e the whole w o r l d
(John 3:16-21; Rom 1:16; 1 John 2:2; Luke 2:25-32)

Jesus didn't come for the r i g h t e o u s but to save s i n n e r s
(Matt 9:12-13; Rom 3:10; 1 Tim 1:15)

The Gospel message of Jesus is r e v e a l e d through these four women's l i v e s (Mark 14:8-9)

- Tamar: salvation is for s i n n e r s (1 Tim 1:15)
- Rahab: salvation is through f a i t h (Heb 11:31)
- Ruth: salvation is of g r a c e (Gal 2:21)
- Bathsheba: salvation h e a l s our b r o k e n n e s s
(2 Cor 5:17)

God's g r a c e does what sinners c a n n o t
(Rom 5:15-21; 10:12-13; Eph 2:8; Titus 2:11)

**Christmas reminds us that because of Jesus, n o o n e is
beyond God's g r a c e and s a l v a t i o n!**