

The Story Behind the Christmas Story



December 21st and 22nd

Jesus' Four Infamous Female Relatives

Matthew 1:1 This is a record of the ancestors of Jesus the Messiah, a descendant of David and of Abraham: **2** Abraham was the father of Isaac. Isaac was the father of Jacob. Jacob was the father of Judah and his brothers. ***New Living Translation-SE***

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Matthew 1:3 Judah was the father of Perez and Zerah (**whose mother was Tamar**). Perez was the father of Hezron. Hezron was the father of Ram. **4** Ram was the father of Amminadab. Amminadab was the father of Nahshon. Nahshon was the father of Salmon. **5** Salmon was the father of Boaz (**whose mother was Rahab**). Boaz was the father of Obed (**whose mother was Ruth**). Obed was the father of Jesse. **6** Jesse was the father of King David. David was the father of Solomon (**whose mother was Bathsheba, the widow of Uriah**). ***New Living Translation-SE***

Jesus' Four Infamous Female Relatives

TAMAR (Genesis 38)

Posed as a prostitute to fool her father-in-law into getting her pregnant

She represents a good person who makes a bad decision under pressure

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RAHAB (Joshua 2)

The Canaanite prostitute who hid the two Hebrew spies

She represents a bad person who lives a sinful lifestyle

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RUTH (Gen 19:30–37, Deut 23:3, Ruth 1:16–17)

A woman of Moab, a despised and outcast people

Deuteronomy 23:3 “No Ammonite or Moabite or any of their descendants for ten generations may be admitted to the assembly of the LORD. ***New Living Translation–SE***

She represents a good person disgraced by a bad family

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BATHSHEBA (2 Samuel 11)

The woman David had an adulterous affair with

She represents a good person doing a bad thing out of fear

It doesn't matter where you're from, what matters is where you're going.

It doesn't matter what you've done, what matters is what you're doing.

The story behind the Christmas story is our story

Without Christ a person is infected by sin

Isaiah 64:6 We're all **sin-infected**, sin-contaminated. Our best efforts are grease-stained rags. We dry up like autumn leaves— sin-dried, we're blown off by the wind. **Message Bible**

Romans 3:19 This makes it clear, doesn't it, that whatever is written in these Scriptures is not what God says *about others* but *to us* to whom these Scriptures were addressed in the first place! And it's clear enough, isn't it, **that we're sinners, every one of us**, in the same sinking boat with everybody else? **Message Bible**

Without Christ a person is trapped and blinded by the devil

2 Timothy 2:24 And the Lord's servant must not quarrel; instead, he must be kind to everyone, able to teach, not resentful. **25** Those who oppose him he must gently instruct, in the hope that God will grant them repentance leading them to a knowledge of the truth, **26** and that they will come to their senses and **escape from the trap of the devil**, who has taken them captive to do his will. **New International Version**

2 Corinthians 4:4 Satan, who is the god of this world, has **blinded the minds** of those who don't believe. They are unable to see the glorious light of the Good News. They don't understand this message about the glory of Christ, who is the exact likeness of God. **New International Version**

Jesus chose us

Romans 5:8 But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us **while** we were still sinners. **New Living Translation-SE**

John 15:16 You didn't choose me. **I chose you**. I appointed

you to go and produce lasting fruit, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask for, using my name. ***New Living Translation-SE***

Jesus took our shame away

“Shame is a spin-off from guilt. We may feel guilty for what we did, but we feel ashamed of who we are.”Dr. Les Parrott

Romans 8:1 So now there is no condemnation for those who belong to Christ Jesus. ***2*** And because you belong to him, the power of the life-giving Spirit has freed you from the power of sin that leads to death. ***New Living Translation-SE***