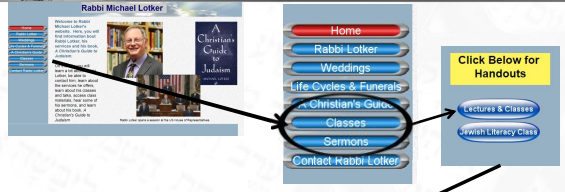


Mamzers and Mashiach: Illicit Sexual Encounters in the Bible

Rabbi Michael Lotker

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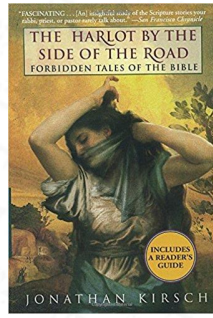
SCIENCE AND RELIGION TALK & CLASS

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Overview of Our Class

- We will carefully read and discuss some of the most interesting stories of the Bible.
- Because of their sexual nature, these are stories that you may not have studied before.
- Then, we will address the question of the meaning of the stories, individually and collectively.

The Harlot by the Side of the Road: Forbidden Tales of the Bible



Mamzer & Mashiach?

- **What's a Mamzer**
 - In Judaism, an illegitimate child.
 - That is, the offspring of a forbidden relationship such as adultery, incest, etc.
 - Not a child fostered out of wedlock
 - According to Orthodox Jewish law, a mamzer can only marry another mamzer.
- **And what is Mashiach – Messiah?**
 - It's a little more complicated.
 - And is especially important for Christians.

The Word "Messiah"

English "Messiah" is a translation of the Hebrew "Mashiach" [משיח]

- Mashiach means "anointed."
 - Kings of Israel were anointed by pouring holy oil on their heads.
 - 39 references to "messiah" in Heb. Bible
 - Not one refers to future redeemer
- When the Hebrew Bible was translated into Greek (about 200 BCE), the Hebrew Mashiach became the Greek "Christos" [Χριστός].
- The Greek Christos gives rise to the English "Christ."

Jewish Understanding of Messiah


- Fully Human and Only Human
- A Political and/or Military Ruler like King David
- Not God in any sense
- Not the son of God in any sense beyond the idea that we are all children of God
- Not connected with redemption of sin
 - Only we can atone for our sins
 - For sins against God, God forgives
 - For sins against others, God cannot forgive unless the person offended forgives
- Messiah not at the heart of Judaism

Jewish Prophecies Concerning Messiah

- A time of peace on earth
 - Peace among people
 - Peace among animals
- All the world will come to know the one God
- Details unresolved
 - Mystics see the time as supernatural
 - Rationalists believe that we will do the work to make the world perfect
 - Many believe in a Messianic Age rather than an individual Messiah.

My “Has the Messiah Come?” Test

- Read the LA Times cover to cover every day for a month.
- If there’s no story of war, or hatred or hunger or disease, the Messianic Age may be here!



Why Don’t Jews Accept Jesus As Messiah?

- No world peace, no Messiah
- The Second Coming not a Jewish idea
- But the larger issue is whether Jesus is God
 - The idea of God taking human form, suffering with us and dying for our sins is
 - Beautiful and inspiring
 - But not Jewish!
- This is why I can have great respect for Christianity but less sympathy for “Jews for Jesus” and “Messianic Jews”

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- **This issue is not “Who was Jesus” but “Who is God.”**

Lot and His Daughters



Lot and His Daughters

30Lot went up from Zoar and settled in the hill country with his two daughters, for he was afraid to dwell in Zoar; and he and his two daughters lived in a cave. 31And the older one said to the younger, "Our father is old, and there is not a man on earth to consort with us in the way of all the world. 32Come, let us make our father drink wine, and let us lie with him, that we may maintain life through our father." 33That night they made their father drink wine, and the older one went in and lay with her father; he did not know when she lay down or when she rose. 34The next day the older one said to the younger, "See, I lay with Father last night; let us make him drink wine tonight also, and you go and lie with him, that we may maintain life through our father." 35That night also they made their father drink wine, and the younger one went and lay with him; he did not know when she lay down or when she rose.

36Thus the two daughters of Lot came to be with child by their father. 37The older one bore a son and named him Moab;^d he is the father of the Moabites of today. 38And the younger also bore a son, and she called him Ben-ammi;^e he is the father of the Ammonites of today.

Lot and His Daughters

DEUTERONOMY 23:4-6

4No Ammonite or Moabite shall be admitted into the congregation of the LORD; none of their descendants, even in the tenth generation, shall ever be admitted into the congregation of the LORD, because they did not meet you with food and water on your journey after you left Egypt, and because they hired Balaam son of Beor, from Pethor of Aram-naharaim, to curse you.—5But the LORD your God refused to heed Balaam; instead, the LORD your God turned the curse into a blessing for you, for the LORD your God loves you.—7You shall never concern yourself with their welfare or benefit as long as you live.

Lot and His Daughters

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    graph TD
      Abraham -- Uncle of --> Lot
      Lot --> LotDaughters[Lot's Daughters]
      LotDaughters --> Ammon
      LotDaughters --> Moab
      Abraham --> Isaac
      Isaac --> Jacob
  
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Judah and Tamar

Judah and Tamar

GENESIS 38 JUDAH AND TAMAR

38 About that time Judah left his brothers and camped near a certain Adullamite whose name was Hirah. 27There Judah saw the daughter of a certain Canaanite whose name was Shua, and he married her and cohabited with her. 28She conceived and bore a son, and he named him Er. 29She conceived again and bore a son, and named him Onan. 30Once again she bore a son, and named him Shelah; he was at Chezib when she bore him.

31Judah got a wife for Er his first-born; her name was Tamar. 32But Er, Judah's first-born, was displeasing to the LORD, and the LORD took his life. 33Then Judah said to Onan, "Join with your brother's wife and do your duty by her as a brother-in-law,^a and provide offspring for your brother." 34But Onan, knowing that the seed would not count as his, let it go to waste^b whenever he joined with his brother's wife, so as not to provide offspring for his brother. 35What he did was displeasing to the LORD, and He took his life also. 36Then Judah said to his daughter-in-law Tamar, "Stay as a widow in your father's house until my son Shelah grows up"—for he thought, "He too might die like his brothers." So Tamar went to live in her father's house.

37A long time afterward Shua's daughter, the wife of Judah, died.

Judah and Tamar

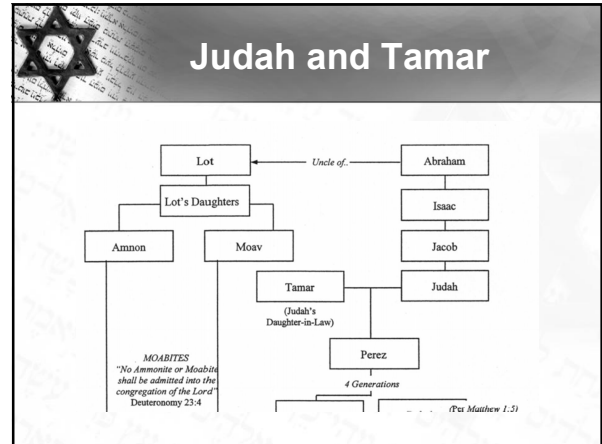
37A long time afterward, Shua's daughter, the wife of Judah, died. When^c his period of mourning was over,^c Judah went up to Timnah to his sheepshearers, together with his friend Hirah the Adullamite. 13And Tamar was told, "Your father-in-law is coming up to Timnah for the sheepshearing." 14So she took off her widow's garb, covered her face with a veil, and, wrapping herself up, sat down at the entrance to Timnah,^d which is on the road to Jurnah; for she saw that Shelah was grown up,^e yet she had not been given to him as wife. 15When Judah saw her, he took her for a harlot; for she had covered her face. 16So he turned aside to her by the road and said, "Here, let me sleep with you"—for he did not know that she was his daughter-in-law. "What," she asked, "will you pay for sleeping with me?" 17He replied, "I will send a kid from my flock." But she said, "You must leave a pledge until you have sent it." 18And he said, "What pledge shall I give you?" She replied, "Your seal and cord, and the staff which you carry." So he gave them to her and slept with her, and she conceived by him. 19Then she went on her way. She took off her veil and again put on her widow's garb.

Judah and Tamar

²⁰Judah sent the kid by his friend the Adullamite, to redeem the pledge from the woman, but he could not find her. ²¹He inquired of the people of that town. ²²Where is the cult prostitute, the one at Einan, by the road? But they said, "There has been no prostitute here." ²³So he returned to Judah and said, "I could not find her; moreover, the townspeople said: There has been no prostitute here." ²⁴Judah said, "Let her keep them, lest we become a laughingstock. I did send her this kid, but you did not find her."

²⁵About three months later, Judah was told, "Your daughter-in-law Tamar has played the harlot; in fact, she is with child by harlotry." "Bring her out," said Judah, "and let her be burned." ²⁶As she was being brought out, she sent this message to her father-in-law, "I am with child by the man to whom these belong." And she added, "Examine these: whose seal and cord and staff are these?" ²⁷Judah recognized them, and said, "She is more in the right than I, inasmuch as I did not give her to my son Shelah." And he was not intimate with her again.

²⁸When the time came for her to give birth, there were twins in her womb! ²⁹While she was in labor, one of them put out his hand, and the midwife tied a crimson thread on that hand, to signify. This one came out first. ³⁰But just then he drew back his hand, and out came his brother; and she said, "What a breach you have made for yourself!" So he was named Perez. ³¹Afterward his brother came out, on whose hand was the crimson thread; he was named Zerah.



Keep this in mind as we read the Book of Ruth

DEUTERONOMY 23:4-6

"No Ammonite or Moabite shall be admitted into the congregation of the LORD; none of their descendants, even in the tenth generation, shall ever be admitted into the congregation of the LORD, because they did not meet you with food and water on your journey after you left Egypt, and because they hired Balaam son of Beor, from Pethor of Aram-naharaim, to curse you.—⁶But the LORD your God refused to heed Balaam; instead, the LORD your God turned the curse into a blessing for you, for the LORD your God loves you.—⁷You shall never concern yourself with their welfare or benefit as long as you live.

The Book of Ruth

The Book of Ruth

In the days when the chieftains^a ruled, there was a famine in the land; and a man of Bethlehem in Judah, with his wife and two sons, went to reside in the country of Moab. ²The man's name was Elimelech, his wife's name was Naomi, and his two sons were named Mahlon and Chilion—Ephrathites of Bethlehem in Judah. They came to the country of Moab and remained there.

³Elimelech, Naomi's husband, died; and she was left with her two sons. ⁴They married Moabite women, one named Orpah and the other Ruth, and they lived there about ten years. ⁵Then those two—Mahlon and Chilion—also died; so the woman was left without her two sons and without her husband.

⁶She started out with her daughters-in-law to return from the country of Moab; for in the country of Moab she had heard that the LORD had taken note of His people and given them food. ⁷Accompanied by her two daughters-in-law, she left the place where she had been living; and they set out on the road back to the land of Judah.

The Book of Ruth

⁸But Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, **"Turn back, each of you to her mother's house. May the LORD deal kindly with you, as you have dealt with the dead and with me! ⁹May the LORD grant that each of you find security in the house of a husband!"** And she kissed them farewell. They broke into weeping ¹⁰and said to her, **"No, we will return with you to your people."**

¹¹But Naomi replied, **"Turn back, my daughters! Why should you go with me? Have I any more sons in my body who might be husbands for you?"** ¹²Turn back, my daughters, for I am too old to be married. Even if I thought there was hope for me, even if I were married tonight and I also bore sons, ¹³should you wait for them to grow up? Should you on their account debar yourselves from marriage? Oh no, my daughters! My lot is far more bitter than yours, for the hand of the LORD has struck out against me."

^a I.e., the leaders who arose in the period before the monarchy; others "judges."

The Book of Ruth

17They broke into weeping again, and Orpah kissed her mother-in-law farewell. But Ruth clung to her. 18So she said, "See, your sister-in-law has returned to her people and her gods. Go follow your sister-in-law." 19But Ruth replied, "Do not urge me to leave you, to turn back and not follow you. For wherever you go, I will go; wherever you lodge, I will lodge; your people shall be my people, and your God my God. 17Where you die, I will die, and there I will be buried. 18Thus and more may the LORD do to me^b if anything but death parts me from you." 19When [Naomi] saw how determined she was to go with her, she ceased to argue with her, 20and the two went on until they reached Bethlehem.

When they arrived in Bethlehem, the whole city buzzed with excitement over them. The women said, "Can this be Naomi?" 20"Do not call me Naomi," she replied. "Call me Mara,^a for Shaddai^a has made my lot very bitter. 21I went away full, and the LORD has dealt harshly with^c me, when Shaddai has brought misfortune upon me!" 22Thus Naomi returned from the country of Moab; she returned with her daughter-in-law Ruth the Moabitess. They arrived in Bethlehem at the beginning of the barley harvest.

The Book of Ruth

2 Now Naomi had a kinsman on her husband's side, a man of substance, of the family of Elimelech, whose name was Boaz. 2Ruth the Moabitess said to Naomi, "I would like to go to the fields and glean among the ears of grain, behind someone who may show me kindness." "Yes, daughter, go," she replied; and off she went. She came and gleaned in a field, behind the reapers; and, as luck would have it, it was the piece of land belonging to Boaz, who was of Elimelech's family. 4Presently Boaz arrived from Bethlehem. He greeted the reapers, "The LORD be with you!" And they responded, "The LORD bless you!" 5Boaz said to the servant who was in charge of the reapers, "Whose girl is that?" 6The servant in charge of the reapers replied, "She is a Moabitess who came back with Naomi from the country of Moab. 7She said, 'Please let me glean and gather among the sheaves behind the reapers.' She has been on her feet ever since she came this morning. 8She has rested but little in the hut."^a

^a A formula of impression.
^b I.e., "pleasantness."
^c I.e., "bitterness."
^d Usually rendered "the Almighty."
^e Others "testified against."
^f Meaning of Heb. uncertain.

The Book of Ruth

8Boaz said to Ruth, 9"Listen to me, daughter. 10Don't go to glean in another field. Don't go elsewhere, but stay here close to my girls. 11Keep your eyes on the field they are reaping, and follow them. I have ordered the men not to molest you. And when you are thirsty, go to the jars and drink some of [the water] that the men have drawn." 12She prostrated herself with her face to the ground, and said to him, "Why are you so kind as to single me out, when I am a foreigner?" 13Boaz said in reply, "I have been told of all that you did for your mother-in-law after the death of your husband, how you left your father and mother and the land of your birth and came to a people you had not known before. 14May the LORD reward your deeds. May you have a full recompense from the LORD, the God of Israel, under whose wings you have sought refuge!" 15She answered, "You are most kind, my lord, to comfort me and to speak gently to your maidservant—though I am not so much as one of your maidservants." 16At mealtime, Boaz said to her, "Come over here and partake of the meal, and dip your morsel in the vinegar." So she sat down beside the reapers. He handed her roasted grain, and she ate her fill and had some left over.

The Book of Ruth

18When she got up again to glean, Boaz gave orders to his workers, "You are not only to let her glean among the sheaves, without interference, 19but you must also pull some [stalks] out of the heaps and leave them for her to glean, and not scold her." 20She gleaned in the field until evening. Then she beat out what she had gleaned—it was about an ephah of barley—21and carried it back with her to the town. When her mother-in-law saw what she had gleaned, and when she also took out and gave her what she had left over after eating her fill, 22her mother-in-law asked her, "Where did you glean today? Where did you work? Blessed be he who took such generous notice of you!" So she told her mother-in-law whom she had worked with, saying, "The name of the man with whom I worked today is Boaz." 23Naomi said to her daughter-in-law, "Blessed be he of the LORD, who has not failed in His kindness to the living or to the dead! For," Naomi explained to her daughter-in-law, "the man is related to us; he is one of our redeeming kinsmen." 24Ruth the Moabitess said, "He even told me, 25"Listen you not, daughter!"

^a Cf. Lev. 25:25 and note and Deut. 25:5-6. The fact that Boaz was a kinsman of Ruth's dead husband opened up the possibility of providing an heir for the latter.

26Stay close by my workers until all my harvest is finished." 27And Naomi answered her daughter-in-law Ruth, "It is best, daughter, that you go out with his girls, and not be annoyed in some other field." 28So she stayed close to the maidservants of Boaz, and gleaned until the barley harvest and the wheat harvest were finished. Then she stayed at home with her mother-in-law.

The Book of Ruth

3 Naomi, her mother-in-law, said to her, "Daughter, I must seek a home for you, where you may be happy. 2Now there is our kinsman Boaz, whose girls you were close to. He will be winnowing barley on the threshing floor tonight. 3So bathe, anoint yourself, dress up, and go down to the threshing floor. But do not disclose yourself to the man until he has finished eating and drinking. 4When he lies down, note the place where he lies down, and go over and uncover his feet and lie down. He will tell you what you are to do." 5She replied, "I will do everything you tell me." 6She went down to the threshing floor and did just as her mother-in-law had instructed her. 7Boaz ate and drank, and in a cheerful mood went to lie down beside the grainpile. Then she went over stealthily and uncovered his feet and lay down. 8In the middle of the night, the man gave a start and pulled back—there was a woman lying at his feet! 9"Who are you?" he asked. And she replied, "I am your handmaid Ruth. 10Spread your robe over your handmaid,^a for you are a redeeming kinsman."

The Book of Ruth

10He exclaimed, "Be blessed of the LORD, daughter! Your latest deed of loyalty is greater than the first, in that you have not turned to younger men, whether poor or rich." 11And now, daughter, have no fear. I will do in your behalf whatever you ask, for all the "elders of my town" know what a fine woman you are. 12But while it is true I am a redeeming kinsman, there is another redeemer closer than I. 13Stay for the night. Then in the morning, if he will act as a redeemer, good! let him redeem. But if he does not want to act as redeemer for you, I will do so myself, as the LORD lives! Lie down until morning." 14So she lay at his feet until dawn. She rose before one person could distinguish another, for he thought, "Let it not be known that the woman came to the threshing floor." 15And he said, "Hold out the shawl you are wearing." She held it while he measured out six measures of barley, and he put it on her back.

^a A formal act of espousal; cf. Ezek. 16:8.
^b I.e., she sought out a kinsman of her dead husband; see note at 2:20 above. Her first act of loyalty had been to return with Naomi.
^c I.e., "gate of my people."

The Book of Ruth

When she^d got back to the town, ¹⁶she came to her mother-in-law, who asked, "How is it with you, daughter?" She told her all that the man had done for her; ¹⁷and she added, "He gave me these six measures of barley, saying to me, 'Do not go back to your mother-in-law empty-handed.'" ¹⁸And Naomi said, "Stay here, daughter, till you learn how the matter turns out. For the man will not rest, but will settle the matter today."

4 Meanwhile, Boaz had gone to the gate and sat down there. And now the redeemer whom Boaz had mentioned passed by. He called, "Come over and sit down here, So-and-so!" And he came over and sat down. ²Then [Boaz] took ten elders of the town and said, "Be seated here"; and they sat down.

The Book of Ruth

¹⁶He said to the redeemer, "Naomi, now returned from the country of Moab, must sell the piece of land which belonged to our kinsman Elimelech. ¹⁷I thought I should disclose the matter to you and say: Acquire it in the presence of those seated here and in the presence of the elders of my people. If you are willing to redeem it, redeem! But if you^a will not redeem, tell me, that I may know. For there is no one to redeem but you, and I come after you." "I am willing to redeem it," he replied. ¹⁸Boaz continued, "When you acquire the property from Naomi ^band from Ruth the Moabitess, you must also acquire the wife of the deceased, ^cso as to perpetuate the name of the deceased upon his estate." ^eThe redeemer: You take over my right of redemption, for I am unable to exercise it."

⁷Now this was formerly done in Israel in cases of redemption or exchange: to validate any transaction, one man would take off his sandal and hand it to the other. Such was the practice^d in Israel. ⁸So when the redeemer said to Boaz, "Acquire for yourself," he drew off his sandal. ⁹And Boaz said to the elders and to the rest of the people, "You are witnesses today that I am acquiring from Naomi all that belonged to Elimelech and all that belonged to Chilion and Mahlon. ¹⁰I am also acquiring Ruth the Moabitess, the wife of Mahlon, as my wife, so as to

^a So in many Heb. mss; must see. read "he."
^b So many Heb. mss; Septuagint, and Targum; must see. read "she."
^c In Samaritan mss. "you must also acquire Ruth the Moabitess, the wife of the deceased"; cf. v. 10.
^d I.e., by exchanging sandals for property which will go to the son-in-law."
^e Deut. 19:9-10."

The Book of Ruth

perpetuate the name of the deceased upon his estate, that the name of the deceased may not disappear from among his kinsmen and from the gate of his home town. You are witnesses today."

¹¹All the people at the gate and the elders answered, "We are. May the LORD make the woman who is coming into your house like Rachel and Leah, both of whom built up the House of Israel! Prosper in Ephrathah^f and perpetuate your name in Bethlehem! ¹²And may your house be like the house of Perez whom Tamar bore to Judah—through the offspring which the LORD will give you by this young woman."

¹³So Boaz married Ruth; she became his wife, and he cohabited with her. The LORD let her conceive, and she bore a son. ¹⁴And the women said to Naomi, "Blessed be the LORD, who has not withheld a redeemer from you today! May his name be perpetuated in Israel! ¹⁵He will renew your life and sustain your old age; for he is born of your daughter-in-law, who loves you and is better to you than seven sons."

¹⁶Naomi took the child and held it to her bosom. She became its foster mother, ¹⁷and the women neighbors gave him a name, saying, "A son is born to Naomi!" They named him Obed; he was the father of Jesse, father of David.

¹⁸This is the line of Perez: Perez begot Hezron, ¹⁹Hezron begot Ram, Ram begot Aminadab, ²⁰Aminadab begot Nahshon, Nahshon begot Salmon, ²¹Salmon begot Boaz, Boaz begot Obed, ²²Obed begot Jesse, and Jesse begot David.

The Book of Ruth

MOABITES
 "No Ammonite or Moabite shall be admitted into the congregation of the LORD"
 Deuteronomy 23:4

4 Generations


(Per Matthew 1:5)
(Harlot: Joshua 2:1)

David and Bathsheba

David and Bathsheba


II SAMUEL

11 At the turn of the year, the season when kings go out [to battle], David sent Joab with his officers and all Israel with him, and they devastated Ammon and besieged Rabbah; David remained in Jerusalem. ²Late one afternoon, David rose from his couch and strolled on the roof of the royal palace; and from the roof he saw a woman bathing. The woman was very beautiful, ³and the king sent someone to make inquiries about the woman. He reported, "She is Bathsheba daughter of Eliam [and] wife of Uriah the Hittite." ⁴David sent messengers to fetch her; she came to him and he lay with her—she had just purified herself after her period—and she went back home. ⁵The woman conceived, and she sent word to David, "I am pregnant." ⁶Thereupon David sent a message to Joab, "Send Uriah the Hittite to me"; and Joab sent Uriah to David.



David and Bathsheba


⁷When Uriah came to him, David asked him how Joab and the troops were faring and how the war was going. ⁸Then David said to Uriah, "Go down to your house and bathe your feet." When Uriah left the royal palace, a present from the king followed him. ⁹But Uriah slept at the entrance of the royal palace, along with the other officers of his lord, and did not go down to his house. ¹⁰When David was told that Uriah had not gone down to his house, he said to Uriah, "You just came from a journey; why didn't you go down to your house?" ¹¹Uriah answered David, "The Ark and Israel and Judah are located at Succoth, and my master Joab and Your Majesty's men are camped in the open; how can I go home and eat and drink and sleep with my wife? ¹²As you live, by your very life, I will not do this!" ¹³David said to Uriah, "Stay here today also, and tomorrow I will send you off." So Uriah remained in Jerusalem that day. The next day, ¹⁴David summoned him, and he ate and drank with him until he got him drunk; but in the evening, [Uriah] went out to sleep in the same place, with his lord's officers; he did not go down to his home.



David and Bathsheba

¹⁴In the morning, David wrote a letter to Joab, which he sent with Uriah. ¹⁵He wrote in the letter as follows: "Place Uriah in the front line where the fighting is fiercest; then fall back so that he may be killed." ¹⁶So when Joab was besieging the city, he stationed Uriah at the point where he knew that there were able warriors. ¹⁷The men of the city sallied out and attacked Joab, and some of David's officers among the troops fell; Uriah the Hittite was among those who died.


¹⁸Joab sent a full report of the battle to David. ¹⁹He instructed the messenger as follows: "When you finish reporting to the king all about the battle, ²⁰the king may get angry and say to you, 'Why did you come so close to the city to attack it? Didn't you know that they would shoot from the wall?' ²¹Who struck down Abimelech son of Jerubesheth? Was it not a woman who dropped an upper millstone on him from the wall at Thebez, from which he died? Why did you come so close to the wall?' Then say: 'Your servant Uriah the Hittite was among those killed.'"



David and Bathsheba


²²The messenger set out; he came and told David all that Joab had sent him to say. ²³The messenger said to David, "First the men prevailed against us and sallied out against us into the open; then we drove them back up to the entrance to the gate. ²⁴But the archers shot at your men from the wall and some of Your Majesty's men fell; your servant Uriah the Hittite also fell." ²⁵Whereupon David said to the messenger, "Give Joab this message: 'Do not be distressed about the matter. The sword ²⁶always takes its toll.' ²⁷Press your attack on the city and destroy it!' Encourage him!"

²⁸When Uriah's wife heard that her husband Uriah was dead, she lamented over her husband. ²⁹After the period of mourning was over, David sent and had her brought into his palace; she became his wife and she bore him a son.




David and Bathsheba

¹²But the LORD was displeased with what David had done, ¹and the LORD sent Nathan to David. He came to him and said, "There were two men in the same city, one rich and one poor. ²The rich man had very large flocks and herds, ³but the poor man had only one little ewe lamb that he had bought. He tended it and it grew up together with him and his children: it used to share his morsel of bread, drink from his cup, and nestle in his bosom; it was like a daughter to him. ⁴One day, a traveler came to the rich man, but he was loath to take anything from his own flocks or herds to prepare a meal for the guest who had come to him; so he took the poor man's lamb and prepared it for the man who had come to him."



David and Bathsheba

⁵David flew into a rage against the man, and said to Nathan, "As the LORD lives, the man who did this deserves to die! ⁶He shall pay for the lamb four times over, because he did such a thing and showed no pity." ⁷And Nathan said to David, "That man is you! Thus said the LORD, the God of Israel: 'It was I who anointed you king over Israel and it was I who rescued you from the hand of Saul. ⁸I gave you your master's house and possession of your master's wives; and I gave you the House of Israel and Judah; and if that were not enough, I would give you twice as much more. ⁹Why then have you flouted the command of the LORD and done what displeases Him? You have put Uriah the Hittite to the sword; you took his wife and made her your wife and had him killed by the sword of the Ammonites. ¹⁰Therefore the sword shall never depart from your House—because you spurned Me by taking the wife of Uriah the Hittite and making her your wife.' ¹¹Thus said the LORD: 'I will make a calamity rise against you from within your own house; I will take your wives and give them to another man before your very eyes and he shall sleep with your wives under this very sun. ¹²You acted in secret, but I will make this happen in the sight of all Israel and in broad daylight!'"



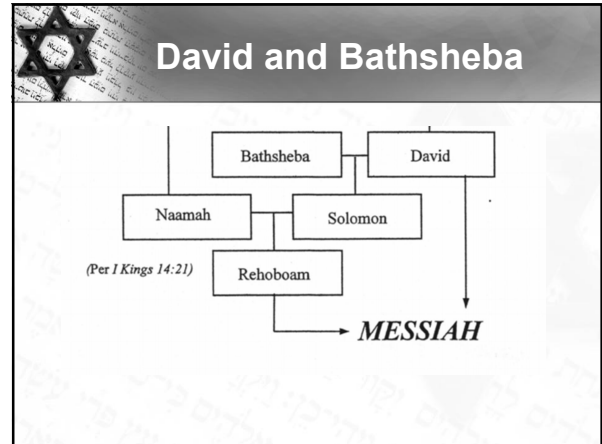
David and Bathsheba

¹³David said to Nathan, "I stand guilty before the LORD!" And Nathan replied to David, "The LORD has remitted your sin; you shall not die. ¹⁴However, since you have spurned the enemies of the LORD by this deed, even the child about to be born to you shall die."

¹⁵Nathan went home, and the LORD afflicted the child that Uriah's wife had borne to David, and it became critically ill. ¹⁶David entreated God for the boy; David fasted, and he went in and spent the night lying on the ground. ¹⁷The senior servants of his household tried to induce him to get up from the ground; but he refused, nor would he partake of food with them. ¹⁸On the seventh day the child died. David's servants were afraid to tell David that the child was dead; for they said, "We spoke to him when the child was alive and he wouldn't listen to us; how can we tell him that the child is dead? He might do something terrible." ¹⁹When David saw his servants talking in whispers, David understood that the child was dead; David asked his servants, "Is the child dead?" "Yes," they replied.

David and Bathsheba

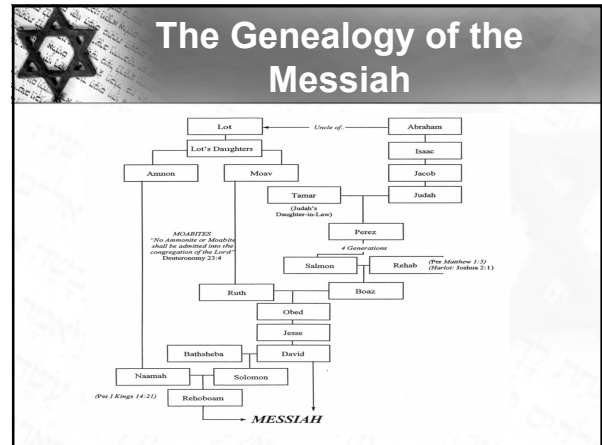
²⁰Thereupon David rose from the ground; he bathed and anointed himself, and he changed his clothes. He went into the House of the LORD and prostrated himself. Then he went home and asked for food, which they set before him, and he ate. ²¹His courtiers asked him, "Why have you acted in this manner? While the child was alive, you fasted and wept; but now that the child is dead, you rise and take food!" ²²He replied, "While the child was still alive, I fasted and wept because I thought: 'Who knows? The LORD may have pity on me, and the child may live.' ²³But now that he is dead, why should I fast? Can I bring him back again? I shall go to him, but he will never come back to me."
²⁴David consoled his wife Bathsheba; he went to her and lay with her. She bore a son and she named him Solomon. The LORD favored him, ²⁵and He sent a message through the prophet Nathan; and he was named Jedidiah^a at the instance of the LORD.



Opening Verse of the New Testament

1 An account of the genealogy^a of Jesus the Messiah,^b the son of David, the son of Abraham.
²Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers, ³and Judah the father of Perez and Zerah by **Samar**, and Perez the father of Hezron, and Hezron the father of Aram, ⁴and Aram the father of Aminadab, and Aminadab the father of Nahshon, and Nahshon the father of Salmon, ⁵and Salmon the father of Boaz by **Rahab**, and Boaz the father of Obed by **Ruth**, and Obed the father of Jesse, ⁶and Jesse the father of King David.
⁷And David was the father of Solomon by the wife of **Uriah**, ⁸and Solomon the father of Rehoboam, and Rehoboam the father of Abijah, and Abijah the father of Asaph, ⁹and Asaph^c the father of Jehoshaphat, and Jehoshaphat the father of Joram, and Joram the father of Uzziah, ¹⁰and Uzziah the father of Jotham, and Jotham the father of Ahaz, and Ahaz the father of Hezekiah, ¹¹and Hezekiah the father of Manasseh, and Manasseh the father of Amos, ¹²and Amos^d the father of Josiah, ¹³and Josiah the father of Jechoniah and his brothers, at the time of the deportation to Babylon.
¹⁴And after the deportation to Babylon: Jechoniah was the father of Salathiel, and Salathiel the father of Zerubbabel, ¹⁵and Zerubbabel the father of Abiud, and Abiud the father of Eliakim, and Eliakim the father of Azor, ¹⁶and Azor the father of Zadok, and Zadok the father of Achim, and Achim the father of Eliud, ¹⁷and Eliud the father of Eleazar, and Eleazar the father of Matthan, and Matthan the father of Jacob, ¹⁸and Jacob the father of Joseph the husband of **Mary**, of whom Jesus was born, who is called the Messiah.^e
¹⁹So all the generations from Abraham to David are fourteen generations; and from David to Jesus are fourteen generations; and from Jesus to the Christ are fourteen generations.

^a Or birth
^b Or Jesus Christ
^c Other ancient authorities read Asa
^d Other ancient authorities read Amos
^e Or the Christ



The Genealogy of the Messiah

So what do you think is going on?

- Why the strange couplings?
- Why does the NT genealogy only mention these women
- Is there a lesson here?
- How does this lesson apply to us, today?

Trip to Israel

October 18-27 - 2018 Israel
 October 15-18 - Rome Option

For more info, see www.lotker.com
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