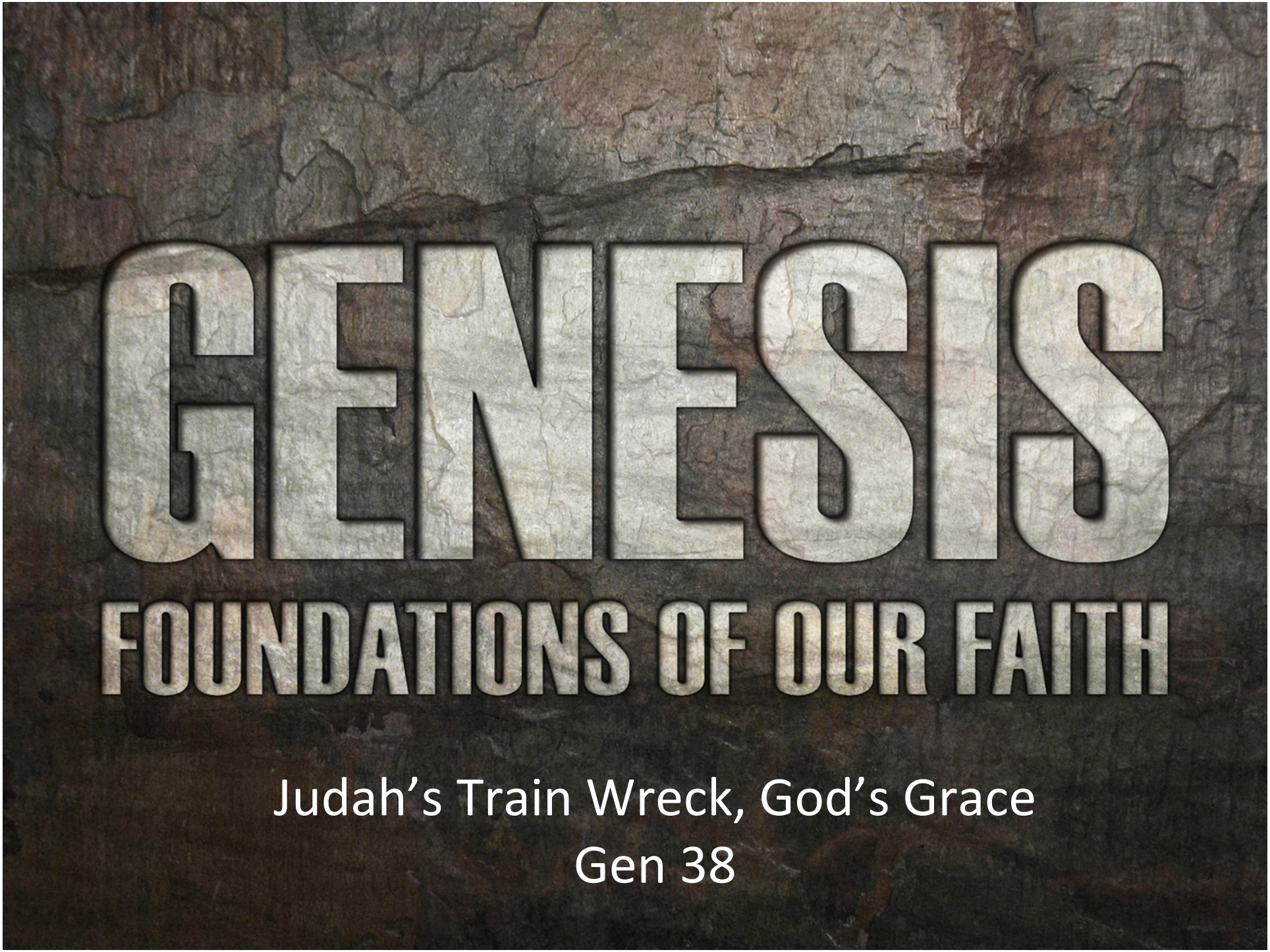

Judah's Train Wreck, God's Grace

Gen 38

While it is eternally true that what is done can never be undone, it is equally true that what has been broken can be mended, and the glory of grace is its power to heal broken hearts and mend broken lives.

Genesis A Devotional Commentary, Griffith Thomas, p367

GENESIS

Lessons: Examples to avoid

- Tamar: success at all costs.
- Judah: don’t write him off.
- Onan: looked out for “número uno”.
- Hirah: avoid him.

Lessons: God paints on a very large canvas

The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ … Abraham the father of Isaac… Jacob… Judah the father of Perez… by **Tamar**… Salmon… Boaz by **Rahab**… Obed by **Ruth**… Jesse… David… Solomon by **the wife of Uriah**… Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom Jesus was born, who is called Christ. (Mat 1:1-16)

Lessons: Marvelous Grace

Only Divine grace could dare to take up these sorry elements of human life and use them for its own blessed purpose. There is nothing more marvelous than the power and possibilities of grace. Grace forgives, uplifts, transmutes, transforms, and then uses for its own glory. "Shall we then sin that grace may abound? God forbid." We may not, must not, dare not. And yet, "if any man sin we have" the blessed assurance that grace will not leave us in the mire of degradation, defeat and despair. While it is eternally true that what is done can never be undone, it is equally true that what has been broken can be mended, and the glory of grace is its power to heal broken hearts and mend broken lives. While life can never be as though sin had not been committed, yet the alchemy of grace has wonderful transforming power. Nature knows nothing of this, and can only tell of law broken and penalty exacted. But the Gospel comes to hearts broken by sin and despairing of redemption, and tells of pardon, peace and purity, in the blessed healing and transforming influences of Divine mercy, love and grace.

GENESIS

Genesis A Devotional Commentary, Griffith Thomas, p367