



LITERARY STRUCTURE OF GENESIS 38:1-30

Introduction: Judah leaves his father's homestead and fathers three sons (1-5)

A The childless widow (6-11)

- a Tamar exchanges her widow's garb for that of a prostitute (14)
- b Judah's proposition to Tamar (15-16b)

B **x Exchange of pledges (16c-18b)**

- b' Judah's consummation with Tamar (18c)
- a' Tamar exchanges her prostitute's garb for that of a widow (19)

- a **The kid is sent for the pledge, Tamar is not found (20)**

- b **The Adullamite's inquiry about the prostitute (21a)**

X **x THE TOWNPEOPLE'S RESPONSE (21b)**

- b' **The Adullamite's report to Judah (22)**

- a' **The pledge is forfeited, Tamar is not found (23)**

- a Judah is informed that Tamar has a child by harloty (24a-b)

- b Judah's edict that Tamar should be burned (24c)

B' **x Judah's recognizes the items of his pledge (25-26a)**

- b' Judah's edict that Tamar is more righteous than he (26b)

- a' Judah does not have relations with Tamar again (26c)

A' The birth of twins to a widow (27-30)

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