



# *Living With A Checkered Past*

*Morning Sermon by Ray Reynolds (June 10, 2012)*

**GULF SHORES CHURCH OF CHRIST**



Introduction: Have you ever wanted a fresh start? Do you have anyone in your family you would like to drop on a desert island? Are you living with a checkered past? Then, this is just the sermon you need to hear! Jesus was a friend of sinners. I would like to share the story of four characters in the Old Testament that have a checkered past. Let's study together....

Discussion:

## ***I. The Checkered Past of Tamar (Genesis 38)***

- A. The Scandal
- B. The Solution to the Problem
- C. The Sovereignty of God
- D. The Story of Grace

## ***II. The Checkered Past of Rahab (Joshua 2)***

- A. The Scandal
- B. The Solution to the Problem
- C. The Sovereignty of God
- D. The Story of Grace

## ***III. The Checkered Past of Ruth (Ruth 1-4)***

- A. The Scandal
- B. The Solution to the Problem
- C. The Sovereignty of God
- D. The Story of Grace

## ***IV. The Checkered Past of Bathsheba (II Samuel 11-12)***

- A. The Scandal
- B. The Solution to the Problem
- C. The Sovereignty of God
- D. The Story of Grace

Conclusion: What do these stories have in common (**Matthew 1:1-6**)? All four of these women are in the story of Jesus: Tamar (v.3), Rahab (v.5), Ruth (v.5), Bathsheba (v.6). Jesus lived with a checkered past! Not His own sins, but those of His family tree! Don't judge a book by its cover! Jesus is the King to all! He would show mercy to sinners, show compassion to the harlots, and open His kingdom to the Gentiles. No matter what you've done in the past, Jesus can save you. If a prostitute can be saved, you can be saved. If a murderer can be transformed, you can be transformed. If an incestuous and immoral person can be redeemed, then there is hope for you. God uses the broken!