



THE CITADEL GLOBAL COMMUNITY CHURCH

SEARCH THE SCRIPTURES NUGGETS

SUNDAY, AUGUST 31, 2025



FACTORS INFLUENCING HOUSEHOLD SALVATION (5)

By Pastor 'Tunde Bakare

2025: OUR YEAR OF FULFILLED DREAMS GENESIS 41:1, GENESIS 42:9

- If ever there was a dysfunctional family, it was that of the patriarch Jacob. Yet, out of those twelve sons arose the twelve tribes of Israel—and from them, the powerful nation that still exists today. This truth assures us that, in the hands of Almighty God, even dysfunctional families can be redeemed and transformed into vessels of purpose. What seems broken can be made whole; what seems hopeless can become a testimony. From strong families, strong nations are birthed (**Genesis 49:8-12**).
- Do not assume that the blessings pronounced upon Judah by his father Jacob were solely due to favouritism. Judah, like his brothers Reuben, Simeon, and Levi, had his own faults and failures. In fact, it was Judah who suggested selling Joseph into slavery (**Genesis 37:23-28**).
- Judah also exchanged his sceptre—the signet of authority of his family—for a fleeting moment of cheap pleasure (**Genesis 38:1-30**). This fall serves as a sober reminder of the danger of isolation. Judah departed from his brothers, and in that separation, he stumbled. This is why Scripture strongly admonishes us not to forsake “the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is” (**Hebrews 10:24-25**). There is safety, strength, and accountability in fellowship. When we disconnect from our brethren, we expose ourselves to temptation and compromise.
- Don't fool or deceive yourself—isolation kills. That is why the Bible declares that “two are better than one” for if they fall, one will lift up his fellow” (**Ecclesiastes 4:9-10**). Every blunder that befell Judah—particularly the incident with Tamar—happened because he departed from his brethren. Separation made him vulnerable, and compromise followed.
- Yet, how marvellous is the mercy of God! Despite Judah's failures, Moses would later pronounce a blessing upon him: “Hear, Lord, the cry of Judah; bring him to his people. With his own hands he defends his cause. Oh, be his help against his foes!” (**Deuteronomy 33:7**). In God's hands, even the fallen can be restored, and the isolated can be brought back into fellowship and destiny.
- Although Judah's role in proposing the sale of his brother Joseph into slavery was grievous, it was also Judah who later

The CGCC...A community where we love God, love people; serve God, serve people

volunteered as surety for Benjamin. He committed himself to bear the blame forever if he failed to bring Benjamin safely back to their father (**Genesis 43:1-16**). This act of responsibility and sacrifice convinced Jacob and saved the entire family from perishing during the famine. In fact, but for Judah's intervention, the reunion between Joseph and Benjamin—and ultimately between Jacob and Joseph—might never have occurred (**Genesis 45:25-28**). Therefore, never dismiss any child. The same hands once stained by betrayal can, by God's grace, become the hands that hold a family together.

- If you are undergoing a process, do not expend your energy on those who bear false witness against you. Persevere through the season, because when God finishes His work in you and your progress becomes unmistakable, the very mouths that once lied against you will be forced to acknowledge the truth about you (**Genesis 37:33; 45:25-28**).
- It is truly remarkable that, despite Judah's many faults, he rose to become an intercessor. He pleaded both for his brother Benjamin and for his father Jacob, even offering himself as a slave to Joseph so that Benjamin

could return home safely (**Genesis 44:1-34; 45:1-2**). This transformation from betrayal to self-sacrifice demonstrates how God's grace can change a life. The same Judah who once sold his brother into slavery was now willing to become a slave himself to save his family.

- If Judah had not interceded for Benjamin, Joseph might never have been persuaded that his mischievous brothers who once sold him had truly changed. Judah's selfless plea was the pivotal moment. This is why we must be careful never to dismiss a child because of poor behaviour. What appears as rebellion today may, by God's grace, become the very channel of redemption tomorrow.
- What preceded Jacob's blessing over Judah must be clearly understood by the saints of God. It was not a matter of favouritism. The foundation of that blessing was that Judah's sin—unlike Reuben's—was exposed, and he did not attempt to cover it (**Genesis 38:12-26**). This is a vital lesson for us: “He who covers his sins will not prosper, but whoever confesses and forsakes them will have mercy” (**Proverbs 28:13**; cf. **Psalms 32:1-3**). When Judah acknowledged his failure, God's mercy intervened. Consequently, all the symbols of Judah's

authority and the insignia of his office were restored to him (**Genesis 38:24–30**). Confession brought restoration, and restoration paved the way for blessing.

- Regarding Jacob's blessing upon Judah, an initial sin was revealed. This reminds us that no one can truly avoid the consequences of sin. It is much better to seek God's mercy, keep a short account with Him, admit our faults, and accept His forgiveness (**Deuteronomy 33:7**).
- If you sin, do not turn away from God or fellowship. Instead, like the prodigal son, return to Him in repentance, and do not forsake the assembly of the saints. In God, there is always a U-turn—a way back—made possible by His grace and mercy. “Where sin abounded, grace abounded much more” (**Romans 5:20**).

Prayer Point

- The God we serve has eyes too pure to behold sin. Come before the Father today and ask Him to set you free from every stronghold of sin, in the name of Jesus.
- Like Judah, everything you may have lost through sexual sin—or

any form of sin—can be restored. But restoration begins with repentance. You cannot enjoy the blessing of restoration without first coming honestly to the Father, confessing the things that have hindered you.

“Don't fool or deceive yourself— isolation kills. That is why the Bible declares that “two are better than one” for if they fall, one will lift up his fellow” (Ecclesiastes 4:9-10). Every blunder that befell Judah— particularly the incident with Tamar—happened because he departed from his brethren. Separation made him vulnerable, and compromise followed.”

- Therefore, speak honestly with your Father. Sincerely repent of your sins and receive His forgiveness. Then, a time of refreshing will flow into your life from the presence of the Lord (**Acts 3:19**).