

WOMEN OF THE BIBLE SERIES

RUTH

"SAVED BY THE GRACE OF GOD"

RUTH 1:6-22, RUTH 2:1-23

THE BACKGROUND OF THE BOOK OF RUTH

This book does not specifically name its author, but tradition has it that the Prophet Samuel wrote it. When the author wrote this book is unclear. But the prevalent view is a date between 1011 and 931 B.C. This book was written to the Israelites, to teach them that genuine love at times may require uncompromising sacrifice. GOD, abundantly blesses those who seek to live obedient lives. Obedient living does not allow for "accidents" in GOD'S, plan. GOD, extends mercy to the merciful, and because of their obedience to him, love and kindness will be rewarded.

THE BOOK OF RUTH SHORT SUMMARY

The story of Ruth will bring about five stories of redemption. The first being a story that shows what true spiritual conversion is. Which tells us that a person can be saved and richly blessed by GOD, no matter how desperate and hopeless the person may be. The second story is one of unusual love. Which is a love that was based upon genuine commitment, and not fickle emotions. The third story pictures the importance of loyalty, faithfulness, and devotion. Which we should be able to see by Ruth, loyalty to Naomi, Boaz loyalty and faithfulness to the Lord, Boaz, loyalty and faithfulness to Ruth, and Boaz's obvious loyalty and faithfulness to his workers as their employer. The fourth story, will also show how the redemption of GOD, works, showcase GOD'S sovereign power, and how the duties of the kinsman-redeemer were actually carried out. The fifth story of Ruth, encourages people everywhere to give their lives to the Lord. It stirs believers to seek the Lord's redemption from the terrible crises that can arise in their life. Ruth, shows us the wonderful rewards for trusting the Lord, which arouses believers to live a righteous, committed life. And this is good to know especially when so much worldliness and compromise swirls around believers in Christ everyday.

RUTH CHAPTER ONE OUTLOOKS

1. E-lim-elech and his sons die in the land of Moab; [Ruth 1:1-5](#)
2. Naomi returns home; [Ruth 1:6-14](#)
3. Or-pah stays behind, but Ruth goes with Naomi; [Ruth 1:15-18](#)
4. Naomi, and Ruth, welcome to Bethlehem; [Ruth 1:19-22](#)

THIS WEEK OUR SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON IS RUTH "COMMITMENT THAT LEADS TO CONVERSION AND REDEMPTION" RUTH 1:1-5

Someone Please Read

[Ruth 1:1](#)

What Is Fallen Condition Focus In This Verse?

(Which is the human condition we currently share with those for or by whom the bible text was written, that requires the grace of the passage to manifest Gods glory in His people. Or simply the needs that our fallen condition imposes, and that Scripture addresses).

What Type Of Verse Is This?

*(**Indicative:** statement of fact; **Imperative:** a command; **Indicative/Imperative:** combination of fact and an command; **Interrogative:** a question; or an **Conditional statement:** supplies an if and then scenario).*

Now lets breakdown some key words and thoughts in this verse

"¹ Now it came to pass in the days"

- What is the Structural Diagram Connective word in this verse? ____
- And what does this word tell us?
- in this part of the verse we see that time has passed since the previous chapter; [Judges 21](#): where the few men of the tribe of Benjamin, became concern with having wives of their own;

where the men of the tribe of Benjamin, smote all the men, women, and children of Jabesh-gilead; where no one was spared except four hundred virgins which from them became wives, *(in other words Judges ends with chaos in the land)*.

- in this part of the verse we see that this book story comes about during the condition of the previous chapter, *(which we know from studying the book of Judges last year, that when there is a period of no Judges, that GOD, will raise up one to restore peace)*.

- And lastly, in this part of the verse we see a familiar phrase, that comes with a familiar result; [Genesis 14:1](#): And it came to pass in the days of Am-raph-el king of Shi-nar, Ari-och king of El-lasar, Che-dor-laomer king of Elam, and Tidal king of nations, *(which reveals a story of the four Kings that prevailed against five Kings and their armies)*; [Esther 1:1](#): Now it came to pass in the days of A-has-uerus, this *is* A-has-uerus which reigned, from India even unto Ethiopia, over an hundred and seven and twenty provinces, *(in which time a decree was written into law that the man shall bear rule in his own house)*; [Isaiah 7:1](#): And it came to pass in the days of A-haz the son of Jo-tham, the son of Uz-ziah, king of Judah, *that* Re-zin the king of Syria, and Pe-kah the son of Re-ma-liah, king of Israel, went up toward Jerusalem to war against it, but could not prevail against it, *(a story where GOD, judgments comes by the hand of the King of Assyria, and his people)*; [Jeremiah 1:3](#): It came also in the days of Je-ho-iakim the son of Jo-siah king of Judah, unto the end of the eleventh year of Ze-de-kiah the son of Jo-siah king of Judah, unto the carrying away of Jerusalem captive in the fifth month, *(which reveals a story where GOD, told Jeremiah, that none in the land shall prevail against him)*; so the phrase **"it came to pass in the days"**, denotes impending trouble, that was later followed by a happy deliverance.

"when the judges ruled"

- What is the Structural Diagram Connective word in this verse? ____

- And what does this word tell us?

- in this part of the verse we see the word, **"judges"**, which were **R**ulers who presided over the affairs of the Israelites, *(which were twelve total; all were raised up, by the power of GOD)*.

- Question: So what has happen to Israel, that it now needs a judge?

- in this part of the verse we have evidence that this story takes place when a Judge, was needed for peace to be in the land, *(the only time a judge would to rule was after Israel has been in bondage by their oppressors)*.

- in this part of the verse we see that this story takes place during some dark days for Israel; [Judges 21:25](#): In those days *there was* no king in Israel: every man did *that which was* right in his own eyes, *(this account begins in the closing days of the book of Judges; which covers a 400 year period of general anarchy, and oppression; when they were not ruled by GODS, elect, or kings)*.

- And lastly, in this part of the verse it tells us that this book, and story came about during the book of Judges, *(who was the ruling Judge, of this book is unclear; but what is clear is that it was during one of the twelve)*.

"that there was a famine in the land"

- What is the Structural Diagram Connective word in this verse? ____

- And what does this word tell us?

- in this part of the verse we see the word, **"famine"**, which is translated as **S**tarvation, or **S**carcity, *(specifically a condition that brings about hunger)*.

- in this part of the verse we see that the exact circumstances of this famine are unknown, *(but are*

at times depicted in the old testament as an means of punishment by GOD); [Isaiah 3:1](#): For, behold, the Lord, the LORD of hosts, doth take away from Jerusalem and from Judah the stay and the staff, the whole stay of bread, and the whole stay of water.

- in this part of the verse we have come to know that famines were common during the ancient world, *(GOD, would cause them to come about in two ways:*

1. in the form of weather; [1 Kings 18:1-2](#): And it came to pass *after* many days, that the word of the LORD came to Elijah in the third year, saying, Go, shew thyself unto Ahab; and I will send rain upon the earth. ² And Elijah went to shew himself unto Ahab. And *there was* a sore famine in Samaria.

2. by an enemy's siege through warfare; [2 Kings 25:1-3](#): And it came to pass in the ninth year of his reign, in the tenth month, in the tenth *day* of the month, *that* Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came, he, and all his host, against Jerusalem, and pitched against it; and they built forts against it round about. ² And the city was besieged unto the eleventh year of king Ze-de-kiah. ³ And on the ninth *day* of the *fourth* month the famine prevailed in the city, and there was no bread for the people of the land.

- And lastly, in this part of the verse we have proof that the reason for this famine was because of Israel, disobedience to GOD; [Deuteronomy 11:13-17](#); And it shall come to pass, if ye shall hearken diligently unto my commandments which I command you this day, to love the LORD your God, and to serve him with all your heart and with all your soul, ¹⁴ That I will give *you* the rain of your land in his due season, the first rain and the latter rain, that thou mayest gather in thy corn, and thy wine, and thine oil. ¹⁵ And I will send grass in thy fields for thy cattle, that thou mayest eat and be full. ¹⁶ Take heed to yourselves, that your heart be not deceived, and ye turn aside, and serve other gods, and worship them; ¹⁷ And *then* the LORD'S wrath be kindled against you, and he shut up the heaven, that there be no rain, and that the land yield not her fruit; and *lest* ye perish quickly from off the good land which the LORD give th you, *(GOD, specifically promised that there would always be plenty of goods in the land for Israel, as longs as they remained obedient to him).*

"And a certain man of Bethlehemjudah went to sojourn in the country of Moab, he and his wife and his two son"

- What is the Structural Diagram Connective word in this verse? ____

- And what does this word tell us?

- in this part of the verse we see the word, "**Bethlehemjudah**", which was originally called **Eph**-rath, a city in the hill country of Judah, *(also known as the city of David).*

- in this part of the verse we see the word, "**sojourn**", which is translated as **L**odge, or **D**well, *(which tells us this man was not considering this place as a permanent Habitation).*

- in this part of the verse we see the word, "**Moab**", which is also know as the **C**ountry of Moab, or the **L**and of Moab, *(which was located on the east of Jordan, and the Dead Sea).*

- in this part of the verse we see that a famine came to the city of Bethlehem, *(what's ironic about this, it was traditionally known for it's fertile valleys; for in Hebrew, the phrase that was given to this city was, "the house of bread").*

- in this part of the verse we see a reason why this man decided to leave this city for another one, *(simply for physical survival; famines often forced people to move to location temporarily where food was available).*

- in this part of the verse we see that the man flees to a city that was often in conflict with Israel;

in [Numbers 22:1-24](#), (*Balak, king of Moab, unsuccessfully hires Ba-laam, to curse the Israelites*); in [Judges 3:12-30](#), (*reveals a period where Moab, was allowed to assert their control over Israel, at times*); in [1 Samuel 14:47](#), (*were battles between these two cities during the reign of Saul, and David, yielded usually with Israel, as the victor*).

- And lastly, Does this part of the verse remind us of anything?

[Ruth 1:1](#); In The Net: During the time of the Judges there was a famine in the land of Judah. So a man from Bethlehem in Judah went to live as a resident foreigner in the region of Moab, along with his wife and two sons.

Any Questions Or Thoughts?

Someone Please Read

[Ruth 1:2](#)

What Is Fallen Condition Focus In This Verse?

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Now lets breakdown some key words and thoughts in this verse

"2 And the name of the man was E-lim-elech"

- What is the Structural Diagram Connective word in this verse? ____
- And what does this word tell us?*
- in this part of the verse we see the name, "**E-lim-elech**", which is translated as **G**OD is **K**ing, (*a man of the tribe of Judah*).

- And lastly, in this part of the verse we see that he has a relationship with GOD; *(by his name we know that he is protected, and descendants of the line of Jesus).*

"and the name of his wife Naomi"

- What is the Structural Diagram Connective word in this verse? ____
- And what does this word tell us?*
- in this part of the verse we see the name, **"Naomi"**, which is translated as **P**leasant, or **G**ood, *(who followed her husband lead to Moab).*
- And lastly, in this part of the verse we see the character of Naomi, being revealed, *(that she has nature to place the concerns, and needs of others before her own).*

"and the name of his two sons Mah-lon and Chilion, Eph-rath-ites of Bethlehemjudah"

- What is the Structural Diagram Connective word in this verse? ____
- And what does this word tell us?*
- in this part of the verse we see the name, **"Mah-lon"**, which is translated as **S**ickly, *(the elder son of Elimelech, and Naomi).*
- in this part of the verse we gain insight of Mahlon, physical condition, *(his name either speaks to the state of being that he grew into; or that he was born with a sickness).*
- in this part of the verse we see the name, **"Chilion"**, which is translated as **P**ining one, *(the younger son of Elimelech, and Naomi).*
- in this part of the verse we gain insight of Chilion physical condition, *(he name is defined as, "to go into decline", wether mentally, or physically; he had physical deficiency just like his brother).*
- And lastly, in this part of the verse we see the name, **"Eph-rath-ites"**, which is the name given to **A**nyone who was born in the district of Bethlehem, *(a name given only to the people from Judah).*

"And they came into the country of Moab, and continued there"

- What is the Structural Diagram Connective word in this verse? ____
- And what does this word tell us?
- in this part of the verse we see that they lived in Moab, for a period of time, *(Moab, would become known as their home until the famine was over).*
- And lastly, in this part of the verse we gain insight to the dangers in the decision to stay in Moab, *(that they could be influenced, to assimilate, or imitate the religious practices of their foreign culture).*

Ruth 1:2; In The Net: (Now the man's name was E-lim-elech, his wife was Naomi, and his two sons were Mah-lon and Kilion. They were of the clan of Eph-rath from Bethlehem in Judah.) They entered the region of Moab and settled there.

Any Questions Or Thoughts?

Someone Please Read

[Ruth 1:3](#)

What Is Fallen Condition Focus In This Verse?

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Now lets breakdown some key words and thoughts in this verse

"³ And E-lim-elech Naomi's husband died"

- What is the Structural Diagram Connective word in this verse? ____
- And what does this word tell us?
- in this part of the verse we see shortly after being in Moab, that the head of the home dies, *(the text never reveals the time spent thus far in this land, but we have evidence from the previous verse that they have been in Moab, for a time); [Ruth 1:2](#): And the name of the man was E-lim-elech, and the name of his wife Naomi, and the name of his two sons Mah-lon and Chilion, Ephrath-ites of Bethlehemjudah. And they came into the country of Moab, and **continued there**.*
- in this part of the verse we see Naomi, who left a difficult situation under the direction of her husband, is dealing with a hardship of a different kind, *(the reason behind leaving Judah, was to experience life in a easier manner; to dwell in a land where food was not in scarcity, to roam in a land where death would not be the end result because of starvation).*
- And lastly, in this part of the verse believers are reminded, that moving away from problems, doesn't always prevent problems occurring, *(because what they fail to see is no matter where they go, they bring themselves also to the new location; meaning what was destined happen to themselves doesn't stop just because of a change of scenery).*

"and she was left"

- What is the Structural Diagram Connective word in this verse? ____
- And what does this word tell us?

- in this part of the verse we see that the direction of the family now falls on Naomi, *(note that this is a family in a foreign land, who is now experiencing tragedy in the death of a husband, and father of the household).*

- And lastly, in this part of the verse we see that Naomi, has now become a widow, *(this in a land where she knows no one; no one to come and comfort her; all of a sudden she abruptly has to do things of your own; which can easily bring about misery in her life).*

"and her two sons"

- What is the Structural Diagram Connective word in this verse? ____

- And what does this word tell us?*

- in this part of the verse we see that Naomi, now has to take on the care of her sons by herself, *(remember that they both were sickly young men; who's physical elements required constant attention).*

- in this part of the verse we see that her sons are not in a position to aid Naomi, *(they needing both emotional, and physical support themselves; are not in a position to provide their mother with the same).*

- And lastly, Why should someone not be upset with GOD, in this situation?

Ruth 1:3; In The Net: Sometime later Naomi's husband E-lim-elech died, so she and her two sons were left alone.

Any Questions Or Thoughts?

Someone Please Read

[Ruth 1:4](#)

What Is Fallen Condition Focus In This Verse?

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Now lets breakdown some key words and thoughts in this verse

"4 And they took them wives of the women of Moab; the name of the one was Or-pah"

- What is the Structural Diagram Connective word in this verse? ____
- And what does this word tell us?
- in this part of the verse we see the word, "**they**", which is in reference to **M**ah-lon, and **C**hilion, *(whom we see have become old enough to marry).*
- in this part of the verse we see the name, "**Or-pah**", which is translated as **M**ane, or **F**awn, *(specifically, her name means, "back of neck"; who is the wife of Chilion).*
- And lastly, in this part of the verse we see Israelites, being disobedient to a command from GOD; [Deut 23:3-6](#): An Ammonite or Moabite shall not enter into the congregation of the LORD; even to their tenth generation shall they not enter into the congregation of the LORD for ever:
 4 Because they met you not with bread and with water in the way, when ye came forth out of Egypt; and because they hired against thee Ba-laam the son of Be-or of Pet-hor of Meso-po-tamia, to curse thee. 5 Nevertheless the LORD thy God would not hearken unto Ba-laam; but the LORD thy God turned the curse into a blessing unto thee, because the LORD thy God loved thee.
 6 Thou shalt not seek their peace nor their prosperity all thy days for ever, *(it's here we read it was forbidden for Israel, to be in assembly with the Moabite's; specifically they were not to worship with them; for they would influence HIS, people with idolatry).*

"and the name of the other Ruth"

- What is the Structural Diagram Connective word in this verse? ____
- And what does this word tell us?*
- in this part of the verse we see the name, "**Ruth**", which is translated as **F**riend, or **F**riendship, *(who is the wife of Mah-lon).*
- in this part of the verse we see a characteristic, that all believers in Christ, should have; [John 15:15](#): *Henceforth I call you not servants; for the servant knoweth not what his lord doeth: but I have called you friends; for all things that I have heard of my Father I have made known unto you, (a friend should be someone of like faith; one whom see life similar to yours; one whom is not afraid to correct, or receive correction).*
- And lastly, in this part of the verse we see the early beginnings of the adoption of Ruth, by Jesus Christ: [Matthew 1:5](#): And Sa-l'mon begat Boaz of Ra-chab; and Boaz begat Obed of Ruth; and Obed begat Jesse; 6 And Jesse begat David the king; and David the king begat Solomon of her *that had been the wife of U-rias, (what's interesting to point out here, is that she is a gentile, whom will later be placed into the genealogy of the coming Messiah).*

"and they dwelled there about ten years"

- What is the Structural Diagram Connective word in this verse? ____
- And what does this word tell us?
- in this part of the verse we see the word, "**dwelled**", which is translated as **I**nhabited, or **S**ettled, *(which we know E-lim-elech, intentions for him and his family, was to stay in Moab, for a little while).*
- in this part of the verse we gain insight of two marriages lasting at, or near ten years, *(they*

being Naomi, and her two sons, for a certain amount of time, saw and lived in a culture that was not their own).

- Question: What was significant customarily about ten years of marriage?

- in this part of the verse we see that at least for Ruth, was barren; [Ruth 4:13](#): So Boaz took Ruth, and she was his wife: and when he went in unto her, the LORD gave her conception, and she bare a son.

Ruth, *(Mah-lon, a Israelite, and Ruth, a Moabite; was not able to conceive, nor bare children with one another).*

- And lastly, in this part of the verse we now have proof that it has been near, or at least a decade of disobedience, *(E-lim-elech, leaves the land promised to him, he chooses to dwell with a enemy of Israel, and Mah-lon, and Chilion, take on wives from foreign land).*

[Ruth 1:4](#); In The Net: So her sons married Moabite women. (One was named Or-pah and the other Ruth.) And they continued to live there about ten years.

Any Questions Or Thoughts?

Someone Please Read

[Ruth 1:5](#)

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Now lets breakdown some key words and thoughts in this verse

"⁵ And Mah-lon and Chilion died also both of them"

- What is the Structural Diagram Connective word in this verse? ____
- And what does this word tell us?
- in this part of the verse we see that death has come for the rest of Naomi, immediate family, *(first her husband, and now her sons; what interesting to note, is that the text never explains why, or how they all died).*
- in this part of the verse we see that both Or-pah, and Ruth, are now widows like Naomi, *(this event makes all three women now living without husbands).*
- Question: What else do these three women have in common?
- in this part of the verse we see a desperate situation they are all in now, *(they now have no one to support them; they would now have to live off the generosity of strangers; because widows were seen as one of the lowest classes in society during the ancient Jewish world).*
- And lastly, in this part of the verse we see Naomi, faith being tested, *(she is in enemy territory without the people she is closest too; she now has questions to where else do I go in this strange land?; and who amongst these strangers will come to aid me?).*

"and the woman was left of her two sons and her husband"

- What is the Structural Diagram Connective word in this verse? ____
- And what does this word tell us?
- in this part of the verse we see the word, "**woman**", which is Naomi, *(who now has lost all that she was closeses too).*
- in this part of the verse we see the phrase, "**left of**", which is translated as Deprived of, or Left without, *(she now finds herself having to find the strength to keep on living without her immediate family).*
- And lastly, in this part of the verse we see that Naomi, situation has truly become dire; [Psalm 94:4-6](#): *How long shall they utter and speak hard things? and all the workers of iniquity boast themselves? ⁵ They break in pieces thy people, O LORD, and afflict thine heritage. ⁶ They slay the widow and the stranger, and murder the fatherless, (without any additional protection from her husband, nor a heir; she as a widow, is vulnerable to be exploited, and oppressed).*

Ruth 1:5; In The Net: Then Naomi's two sons, Mah-lon and Kilion, also died. So the woman was left all alone - bereaved of her two children as well as her husband!

Any Questions Or Thoughts?

