

Outline of Ruth

- 1 Ruth Loyalty to Naomi
- 2 Ruth Gleans in Boaz's Field
- 3 Ruth Follows Naomi's Plan
- 4 Ruth and Boaz are Married

Authorship and Date of Writing

The author is unknown. Jewish tradition points to Samuel, but it is unlikely that he is the author because the mention of David (4:17,22) implies a later date. Further, the literary style of Hebrew used in Ruth suggests that it was written during the period of the monarchy. The book of Ruth is a historical book of events that occurred during the time of the Judges. The period of Judges is a sad period of Israel's history. This period was characterized by the phrase, "Everyone did that which was right in their own eyes".

Book Characteristics

The book of Ruth shows some of the unique laws practiced at that time (e.g., Law of Gleaning, Levirate Marriage, Law of Redemption). Some of these practices are not only important to understanding the book, but also for understanding other Biblical books. The book of Ruth simply reports the events in an impartial fashion, leaving any praise or condemnation to be done by the reader.

The first reading through the book we see a love story. Then as we read further observing the minute details

RUTH

The Book of Ruth is the Book of Personal Redemption. He is a personal God, Who deals with each person on an individual basis.

we discover a tremendous number of pictures of doctrine lived out. If you are new to studying the Bible, you will find many great discoveries in the book. If you have been studying the Bible for some time you will find it is very sophisticated. It is good to go through the book to get the surface meaning or basic story. Then we can go back through the book to discover there is another meaning underlining the storyline. In particular, the redemption of man by God is found.

PLAYERS AND THEIR TYPES

PERSON	MEANING	TYPE
• Elimelech	"God is my king"	ISRAEL
• Naomi	"Pleasant"	ISRAEL
• Orpah	"Fawn" or "neck"	THE WORLD
• Unnamed Servant	Introduces Ruth to Boaz	HOLY SPIRIT
• Nearer Kinsman	He had to step aside. (What Law could not do)	MOSAIC LAW
• Boaz	"In Him is Strength"	JESUS CHRIST
• Ruth	"Friend"	GENTILE BRIDE (Church)

Country of Moab

The origin of the nation of Moab goes back to the daughters of Lot who got him drunk, had sexual relations with him which resulted in two sons, namely, Moab and Ben-Ammi (Ge.19:30-38). Moab is about 50 miles east on the other side of the Dead Sea from Bethlehem. The inhabitants of Moab were excluded from the congregation of the Lord

HISTORY

BOOK 08
Ru.
 RUTH
 4 CHAPTERS

(Du.23:3-6). they were worshippers of the god of Chemosh (a deity similar to Baal). It is interesting that they had to go around the Dead Sea to get to Moab.

Naomi 10 Year Later

10 years later Naomi gets word that things back in Israel are better, so she decides to "return" (key word 1:6,7,10,16, etc) to her homeland. It is implied in the story that when she left Israel Elimelech lost his property. He either sold it or lost it through indebtedness, maybe not able to pay. The sense here is that there were lands that belonged to Elimelech that were lost. Thus, the book will deal with the concept of redeeming the land. So now we find Naomi is destitute. She has lost her husband, and her two sons. She is going back to her homeland because she knows the people, but she has no leverage there.

- It is because of Boaz and Ruth that Bethlehem is called the city of David.
- The Book of Ruth is one of the only Old Testament books to be principally concerned with a non-Jew.



CHRIST IN RUTH

- Christ is the son of David through Boaz and Ruth (Ru.4:22)
- Christ is pictured in the life of Boaz