



Ruth

Kinsman Redeemer

Cycles of Sin

Ruth 1:1-18



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“What we need very badly these days is a company of Christians who are prepared to trust God as completely now as they know they must do at the last day.”

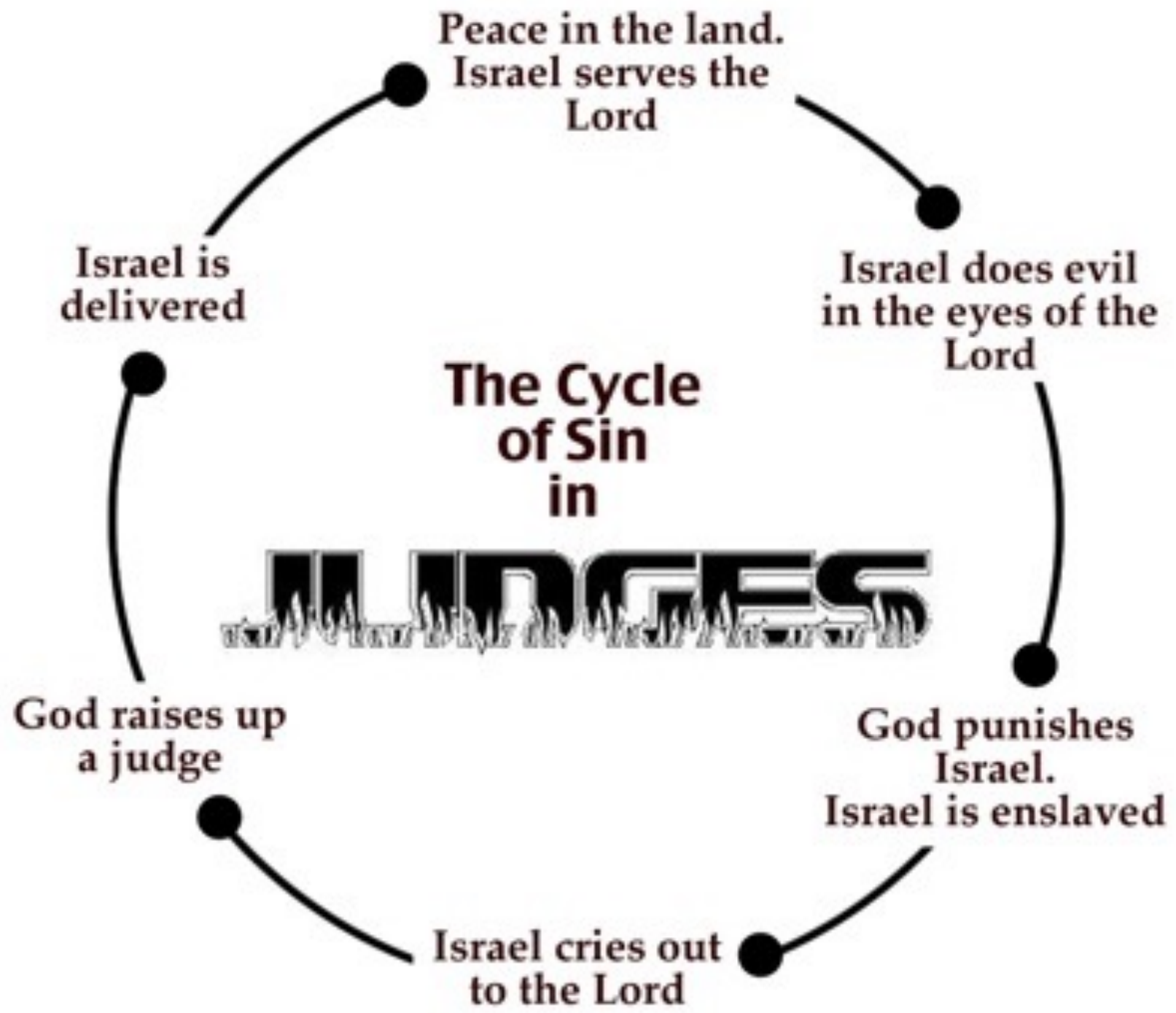
A.W. Tozer

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1 Now it came about in the days when the judges governed, that there was a famine in the land. And a certain man of Bethlehem in Judah went to sojourn in the land of Moab with his wife and his two sons.



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Famine in the Land 1

- 400 years of Judges – Joshua to King Saul
- Judges 17:6; 18:1; 19:1; 21:25
- *“In those days there was no king in Israel; everyone did what was right in his own eyes.”*
- Bethlehem – ‘house of bread’ – Land of Promise
- Deut. 11:13,14,17

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*“To be trusted is a greater
compliment than being loved.”*

George MacDonald



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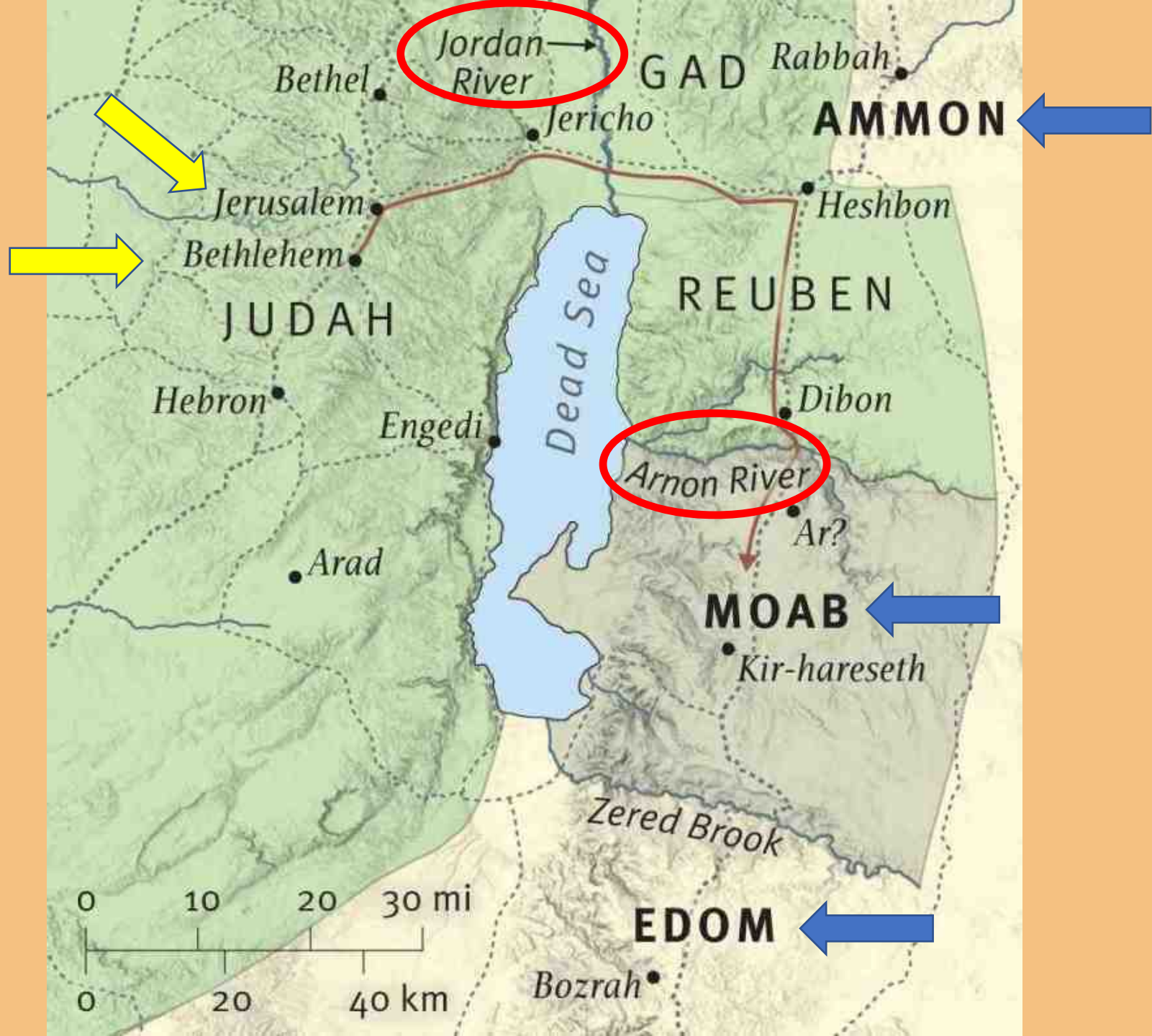
1 Now it came about in the days when the judges governed, that there was a famine in the land. And a certain man of Bethlehem in Judah went to sojourn in the land of Moab with his wife and his two sons.



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2 The name of the man was Elimelech, and the name of his wife, Naomi; and the names of his two sons were Mahlon and Chilion, Ephrathites of Bethlehem in Judah. Now they entered the land of Moab and remained there.

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Family in the Land 1,2

- *Elimelech* – God is King or God is my King
- *Naomi* – pleasant or blessed
- *Mara* – bitter
- *Mahlon* – sickly
- *Chilion* – failing
- *Orpah* – back of neck
- *Ruth* – companion, friend
- *Boaz* – in strength
- Ideal family of 4 departs – broken family of 3 returns
- Names given as aspiration or commemoration
- Moab was not Promised Land

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*“We trust as we love, and where we love.
If we love Christ much,
surely we shall trust him much.”*

Thomas Brooks

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3 Then Elimelech, Naomi's husband, died;
and she was left with her two sons.



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4 They took for themselves Moabite women as wives; the name of the one was Orpah and the name of the other Ruth. And they lived there about ten years.



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5 Then both Mahlon and Chilion also died,
and the woman was bereft of her two children
and her husband.



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Failure in the Land 3-5

- Fearing death Elimelech fled to death
- Naomi should have stayed – trusting God
- Orpah & Ruth – lost in pagan land – should have gone!
- Elimelech died

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Failure in the Land 3-5

- Elimelech died
- Mahlon & Chilion married Moabites – 10 years - died
- Widow without any means of support for her or daughters in law
- Widows without husbands to support them – without children to support them

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*“Faith trusts where you are going –
not just where you are!”*

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6 Then she arose with her daughters-in-law that she might return from the land of Moab, for she had heard in the land of Moab that the LORD had visited His people in giving them food.

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7 So she departed from the place where she was, and her two daughters-in-law with her; and they went on the way to return to the land of Judah.



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8 And Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, “Go, return each of you to her mother’s house. May the LORD deal kindly with you as you have dealt with the dead and with me.

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9 May the LORD grant that you may find rest, each in the house of her husband.” Then she kissed them, and they lifted up their voices and wept.



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Favor in the Land 6-9

- Naomi hears in Moab that famine is ended in Judah (bread)
- 3 women begin trek west to Bethlehem
- ‘come and see’ - call of the disciples!

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Favor in the Land 6-9

- Naomi cannot promise – ‘go back’ – ‘mother’s house’ = pool of eligible
- Naomi hopes for ‘hesed’ for the girls - 8
- Naomi hopes for ‘rest’ – not shabat – comfort & care Psalm 23 ‘waters’

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*“We cannot always trace God's hand, but
we can always trust God's heart.”*

CH Spurgeon



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10 And they said to her, “No, but we will surely return with you to your people.”



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11 But Naomi said, “Return, my daughters.
Why should you go with me? Have I yet sons
in my womb, that they may be your
husbands?”

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12 Return, my daughters! Go, for I am too old to have a husband. If I said I have hope, if I should even have a husband tonight and also bear sons,



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13 would you therefore wait until they were grown? Would you therefore refrain from marrying? No, my daughters; for it is harder for me than for you, for the hand of the LORD has gone forth against me.”

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14 And they lifted up their voices and wept again; and Orpah kissed her mother-in-law, but Ruth clung to her.



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15 Then she said, “Behold, your sister-in-law has gone back to her people and her gods; return after your sister-in-law.”



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16 But Ruth said, “Do not urge me to leave you or turn back from following you; for where you go, I will go, and where you lodge, I will lodge. Your people shall be my people, and your God, my God.

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17 Where you die, I will die, and there I will be buried. Thus may the LORD do to me, and worse, if anything but death parts you and me.”



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18 When she saw that she was determined to go with her, she said no more to her.



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Faithful in the Land 10-18

- Girls pledge to go with Naomi 10-13
- Blaming God for misfortunes – 13
 - Like Adam & Eve
 - Like us?



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Faithful in the Land 10-18

- Arnon? Naomi asks again – Orpah returns 14
- Jordan? Naomi asks again – Ruth stays! 15-17
- Naomi accepts Ruth as companion 18
- Ruth trusted in a God (Jehovah) the same way sailors trusted despite Jonah.

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*“Never be afraid to trust an unknown
future to a known God.”*

Corrie Ten Boom

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A decorative illustration at the bottom of the page shows a brown hillside with several bare, thin trees and scattered orange and red autumn leaves. The text 'Ruth-Kinsman Redeemer' is written in a white, cursive font across the bottom of the hillside.

Cycles of Sin

- Why do we fall for the same stuff?
- Why do our prayers sound so similar?
- How do we break this cycle of sin?
- 1 John 1:9 – agree with God!

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*“God won't light your second step until
you have taken the first one.”*

Woodrow Kroll

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quote



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text



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