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“Critical Decisions in Tough Times”

Ruth 1:1-5

3 Principles to carefully guide you through tough times

1. Even in chaotic and difficult times remember that God is still at work among His people. (v.1a)

The days when the Judges ruled were actually dark days for Israel; the period was characterized by the phrase...

"everyone did what was right in his own eyes"

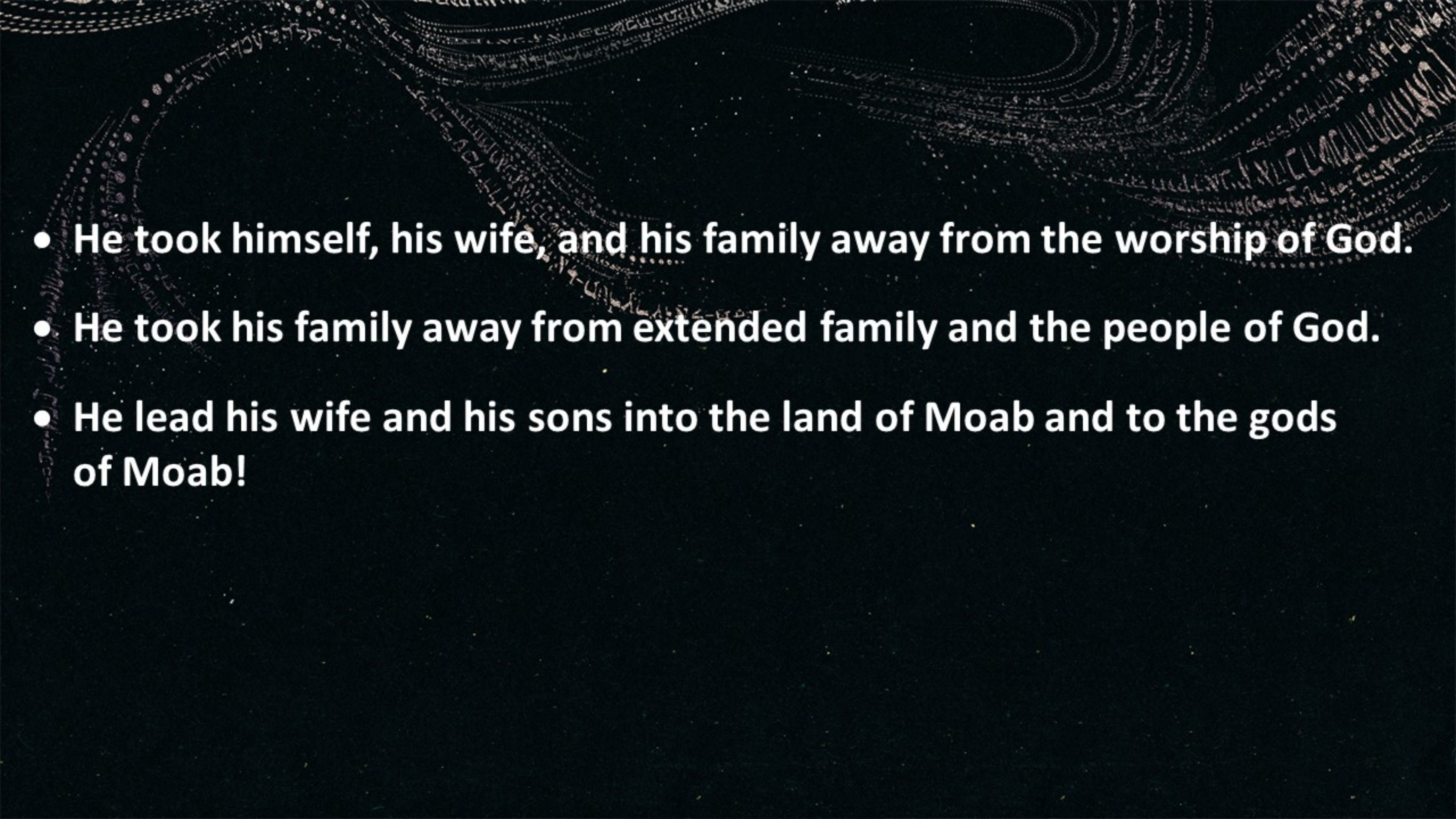
(Judges 17:6, 18:1, 19:1, and 21:25)

3 Principles to carefully guide you through tough times

- 1. Even in chaotic and difficult times remember that God is still at work among His people. (v.1a)**
- 2. Even when you feel like running away, God still calls us to trust Him and obey His Word. (v.1-5)**

“And it shall be that if you earnestly obey My commandments which I command you today, to love the LORD your God and serve Him with all your heart and with all your soul, then I will give *you* the rain for your land in its season, the early rain and the latter rain, that you may gather in your grain, your new wine, and your oil. And I will send grass in your fields for your livestock, that you may eat and be filled.’ Take heed to yourselves, lest your heart be deceived, and you turn aside and serve other gods and worship them, lest the LORD’s anger be aroused against you, and He shut up the heavens so that there be no rain, and the land yield no produce, and you perish quickly from the good land which the LORD is giving you.”

Deuteronomy 11:13-17

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- **He took himself, his wife, and his family away from the worship of God.**
 - **He took his family away from extended family and the people of God.**
 - **He lead his wife and his sons into the land of Moab and to the gods of Moab!**

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- 1. Even in chaotic and difficult times remember that God is still at work among His people. (v.1a)**
- 2. Even when you feel like running away, God still calls us to trust Him and obey His Word. (v.1-5)**
- 3. Even when the consequences of your actions are severe, there is still hope in the Lord. (v.3-6)**