

THE BOOK OF RUTH

Introduction & Chapter 1

> **THEME: “KINSMAN REDEEMER”**

> **MAIN CHARACTERS: Naomi, Ruth & Boaz**

> **KEY VERSES: Ruth 1:16-17; 2:12**

> **CHRIST IN *The Book of Ruth* - “Our Redeemer” like Boaz.**

(Genealogically, Ruth looks back almost 900 years to events in the time of Jacob (4:11) and forward about 100 years to the coming reign of David (4:17, 22). While Joshua and Judges emphasize the legacy of the nation and their land of promise, Ruth focuses on the lineage of David back to the Patriarchal era. At least seven major theological themes emerge in Ruth. First, Ruth the Moabitess illustrates that God’s redemptive plan extended beyond the Jews to Gentiles (2:12). Second, Ruth demonstrates that women are co-heirs with men of God’s salvation grace (cf. 1 Pet. 3:7). Third, Ruth portrays the virtuous woman of Proverbs 31:10 (cf. 3:11). Fourth, Ruth describes God’s sovereign (1:6; 4:13) and providential care (2:3) of seemingly unimportant people at apparently insignificant times which later prove to be monumentally crucial to accomplishing God’s will. Fifth, Ruth along with Tamar (Gen. 38), Rahab (Josh. 2) and Bathsheba (2 Sam. 11-12) stand in the genealogy of the Messianic line (4:17, 22; cf. Matt. 1:5). Sixth, Boaz, as a type of Christ, becomes Ruth’s kinsman-redeemer (4:1-12). Finally, David’s right (and thus Christ’s right) to the throne of Israel is traced back to Judah (4:18-22; cf. Gen. 49:8-12).1)

> **CHAPTER BY CHAPTER:**

CHAPTER 1 - “FAMILY”

CHAPTER 2 - “FAITH”

CHAPTER 3 - “FRIENDSHIP”

CHAPTER 4 - “FRUITFULNESS”

CHAPTER 1- “FAITH & FAMILY”

(v1-5) Family Tragedy

(v6-14) NAOMI- a fantastic mother-in-law!

(v7) Provider

(v8-9) Woman of PRAYER: “the LORD deal kindly with you”

“the LORD grant you rest”

(v9) Woman of affection: “kissed them”

(v11-14) Woman of compassion.

(v19-22) Woman that is honest and real.

(FALSE GOD - *Che'mosh* (ke-mosh)). The national deity of the Moabites, honored with horribly cruel rites like those of Molech, to whom children were sacrificed in the fire. It is interesting archaeologically to note that the anger of Chemosh is said in the famous Moabite Stone to be the reason for Israel's subjugation of Moab (cf. Judg 11:24). Solomon made a fatal mistake, whatever his reason might have been, of rearing an altar to Chemosh in Jerusalem (1 Kings 11:7). This abomination was not destroyed until Josiah's purge almost three centuries later (2 Kings 23:13). So infamated were the Moabites with Chemosh that they were known as the "people of Chemosh" (Num 21:29). (From *The New Unger's Bible Dictionary*. Originally published by Moody Press of Chicago, Illinois. Copyright (c) 1988.)

(v14-18) RUTH – LOVED Naomi & loved Naomi's LORD!