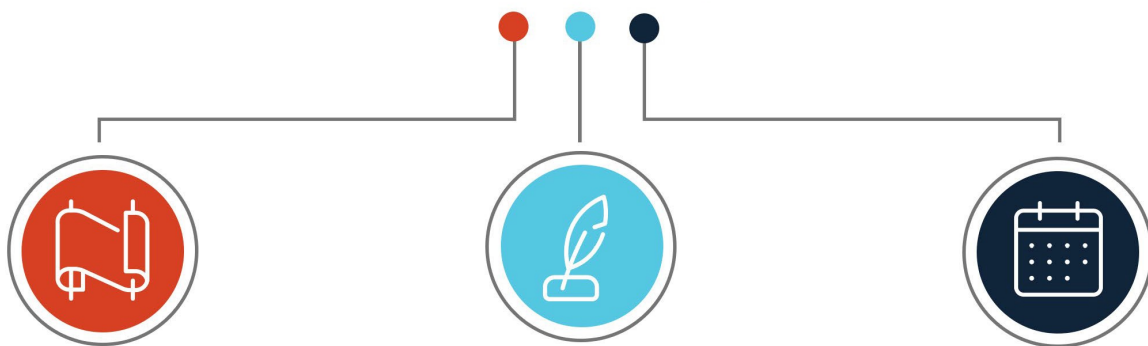


# RUTH

## AT-A-GLANCE



O.T. BOOK #8

AUTHOR: PROPHET SAMUEL  
(most likely)

WRITTEN: 1050-1000 BC

Covering the time period of 1150 - 1100 BC

8

Old Testament: 39 Books

New Testament: 27 Books

**BOOK HIGHLIGHTS:** Ruth became the great-grandmother of King David after a good deed of refusing to desert her mother-in-law, who was from Israel. Her story takes places mostly in Bethlehem, the future birthplace of Jesus.

### KEY STORIES:

- A lady (Naomi) has a husband (Elimelech) who dies and then shortly afterwards, her two sons died. Ruth (one of the daughters-in-law) decides to stay with Naomi. **Ruth 1**
- Ruth re-marries a man named Boaz, a man who showed her kindness and was a near kinsman **Ruth 2-4**

### KEY VERSES:

*And Ruth said, Intreat me not to leave thee, or to return from following after thee: for whither thou goest, I will go; and where thou lodgest, I will lodge: thy people shall be my people, and thy God my God. **Ruth 1:16***

*So Boaz took Ruth, and she was his wife... **Ruth 4:13***

## Important Points about the Book:

- Ruth is only four chapters long and is an incredible story. Ruth was from Moab. Her husband died, her sister's (Orpah) dies, then her father-in-law dies. She decides to stay with her mother-in-law (Naomi).
- With Naomi's wisdom and God's grace, they moved from a situation of sure poverty in Bethlehem to Ruth finding a kind and generous husband who took Naomi in as a mother figure also.
- Ruth and her new husband (Boaz) had a baby boy whom they named Obed. Obed was the father of Jesse, who became the father of King David.

# RUTH | 08 OT



Ruth is one of two books in the Bible named after a woman (Esther, being the other one). She fulfilled the role of a virtuous woman during a time of national apostasy. The marriage of Boaz (the "*Kinsman Redeemer*") and Ruth pictures the Lord Jesus and the Bride of Christ (Ephesians 5:31-32). God's grace towards Ruth was evident by placing her in the lineage of the Messiah through the house of David and this established the monarch (kingdom) of the Lord Jesus within the tribe of Judah. **Ruth 3:12-13**



## BREAKDOWNS

Ruth 1	Naomi, Ruth and Orpah's husbands All Die
Ruth 2	Ruth Clings To and Serves Naomi
Ruth 3	Ruth Meets Boaz on the Threshing Floor
Ruth 4	Boaz and Ruth Marry and Produce David's Grandfather

## INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT THE BOOK OF RUTH:

- Chapters: 4
- Verses: 85
- Words: 2,578
- The book of Ruth is divided into four distinct settings:
  - 1) The Country of Moab (1:1-18)
  - 2) A field in Bethlehem (1:19-2:23)
  - 3) A threshing floor in Bethlehem (3:1-18)
  - 4) The City of Bethlehem (4:1-22)
- Ruth is a virtuous woman (3:11)
- Love is *demonstrated* in chapters 1&2 and *rewarded* in chapters 3&4
- Boaz acts as a redeemer by buying back the land of Naomi, as well as marrying Ruth and fathering a son to keep the family line alive. (Leviticus 25:25-34; Deuteronomy 25:5-10)
- In 22 short verses, Ruth moves from widowhood and poverty to marriage and wealth.
- Orpah (Ruth's sister) chose to leave Naomi and is never mentioned in scripture again.

## **BOAZ—THE KINSMAN REDEEMER AND PICTURE (type) OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST AS OUR KINSMAN REDEEMER**

⇒ **Leviticus 25:25-30, 47-55—A relative could redeem property or even those who sold themselves to be slaves. This redemption would bring restitution from destitution.**

- Ruth was a Gentile who married into a Jewish family (Ruth 2:1-4). Unless one is Jewish, they are a Gentile.
- Boaz was from the tribe of Judah (Ruth 1:2). Jesus—Revelation 5:5 - “...*the Lion of the tribe of Juda...*”
- Boaz lived in Bethlehem (Ruth 2:4). Jesus was born in Bethlehem—Matthew 2:1-6; Luke 2:4-7
- Boaz played the role of “redeemer” (Ruth 4:4-9). Jesus Redeemed us—Romans 3:24; Galatians 4:4-5; Ephesians 1:7; Colossians 1:14. A redeemer “buys back” — I Corinthians 6:19-20.
- Boaz showed Ruth constant acts of kindness (Ruth 2:9-10, 14-16, 20; 3:11; 4:9-10). Jesus showed us kindness—Ephesians 2:7; Titus 3:4.
- Boaz took knowledge of Ruth who was a “*stranger*” and showed her grace (Ruth 2:10). Strangers are exactly what we were before salvation and God, through His grace, took us in—Ephesians 2:11-22.

⇒ **The church today makes up the Gentile Bride of Christ—Ephesians 5:25-27; Revelation 19:7-9; 21:2,9**

- Paul took the gospel to the Gentiles because the Jews rejected Jesus Christ—Acts 9:13-15; Acts 18:1-6.
- Yes, Jews do get saved today, but as a whole, they have rejected Christ as their Messiah. It does happen and is available to any Jew who would believe just as a Gentile can, but is very rare.

⇒ **More Simple Comparisons of Boaz to Christ**

- Boaz was lord of the harvest (Matthew 9:38; Luke 10:2)
- Master of servants (Galatians 1:10)
- Giver of life (John 10:10)