

A Multi-Layer Approach

- There are multiple levels of Application:
 - 1) Historical
 - Real events that happened at an interesting point in time in history the time of the Judges
 - 2 Practical (Homiletic)
 - How does it apply to our own lives
 - 3 Prophetic -
 - The mystical side and how it relates to future events then and now
 - 4 Remez hint of something deeper

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The Missing Link

- Bethlehem
- The Cross
- The Crown
- The Throne of David

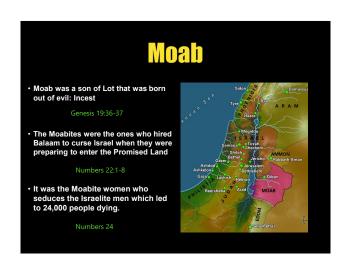
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Ruth 1-1

In the days when the judges ruled there was a famine in the land, and a man from Bethlehem in Judah, together with his wife and two sons, went to live for a while in the country of Moab.



The Famine Only happening in Israel Israel is getting Malaria, no food, etc. Moab thriving Doesn't make sense until..... You link the whole Bible together! Leviticus 26:18-25 ---> Judges 6:2-5 ---> Gideon --- Ruth Divine Judgement There are 13 examples of Famine in Scripture - all are a judgment from God



Moabites were forbidden to participate in the life of Israel and to MARRY them. Deuteronomy 23:3-6 But there were friendly relations between some of the individuals. - When David was on the run from Saul he found a friend in the King of Moab. 1 Samuel 22:3-4

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Ruth 1:2

The man's name was Elimelech, his wife's name Naomi, and the names of his two sons were Mahlon and Killion. They were Ephrathites from Bethlehem, Judah. And they went to Moab and lived there.

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Names

- אלימלך Elimeclech = "God is my king"
- נעמי Naomi = "pleasant"
- מקלון Machlon = "to be sick", "unhealthy"
- צ' יליון 'צ' Chilion = "wasting"

Ruth 1:4-5

They married Moabite women one named Orpah, and the other Ruth. After they had lived there about ten years, both Mahlon and Killion also died, and Noami was left without her two sons and her husband.

Marriage to a Moabite forbidden

Deut. 7:2-3

· Grace will takeover here

Romans 8:3-4

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Ruth 1:6

When she heard in Moab that the LORD had come to the aid of his people by providing food for them, Naomi and her daughters-in-law prepared to return home from there.

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Ruth 1:7

With her two daughters-in-law she left the place where she had been living and set out on the road that would take them back to the land of Judah.

Ruth 1:8

Then Naomi said to her two daughtersin-law, "Go back, each of you, to your mother's home. May the LORD show kindness to you, as you have shown to your dead and to me.

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Ruth 1:9

"May the LORD grant that each of you will find rest in the home of another husband."

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Ruth 1:11

But Naomi said, "Return home, my daughters. Why would you come with me? Am I going to have any more sons, who could become your husbands?"

Ruth 1:12-13

Return home, my daughters; I am too old to have another husband. Even if I thought there was still hope for me even if I had a husband tonight and then gave birth to sons — would you wait until they grew up?

Would you remain unmarried for them?

No, my daughters. It is more bitter for me than for you, because the LORD's hand has gone out against me.!"

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Ruth 1:14

At this point they wept again. Then Orpah kissed her mother-in-law goodbye, but Ruth clung to her.

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Ruth 1:15

"Look," said Naomi, "your sister-in-law is going back to her people and her gods. Go back with her."

The Moabite Stone

- The Moabite Stone is a black basalt memorial stone discovered by a German missionary in 1868.
- Four feet high and contains about 34 lines in an alphabet similar to Hebrew.
- Believed to be constructed around 850 B.C. by the Moabite King Mesha.
- King Mesha's story written on the stone celebrated an overthrow of the nation of Israel even though the Bible is clear that Israel won the battle: (2nd Kings 3:4-27)



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The Moabite Stone

- The passage on the stone shows that Mesha honors their god Chemosh in the same way Israel worships the LORD.
- The inhabitants of entire cities were apparently slaughtered to appease their deity - described in the Book of Joshua
- The Moabite Stone has huge Biblical significance. It confirms the Old Testamant accounts and is valuable geographically because it lists 15 cities found in Scripture.
- Currently found in the Louvre in Paris.



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Ruth 1:16

But Ruth replied, "Don't urge me to leave you or to turn back from you. Where you go I will go, and where you stay I will stay. Your people will be my people and your God my God.

Ruth 1:17

Where you die, I will die, and there I will be buried. May the LORD deal with me, be it ever so severely, if anything but death separates you and me.

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Ruth 1:19

So the two women went on until they came to Bethlehem. When they arrived in Bethlehem, the whole town was stirred because of them, and the women exclaimed, "Can this be Naomi?"

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Ruth 1:21

"I went away full, but the LORD has brought me back empty. Why call me Naomi? The LORD has afflicted me; the Almighty has brought misfortune upon me."

Ruth 1:22

So Naomi returned from Moab accompanied by Ruth the Moabitess, her daughter-in-law, arriving in Bethlehem as the barley harvest was beginning.