

The Book of

Ruth

Chapter 1

And it came to pass when the judges ruled, that there was a famine in the land, and a man went from Bethlehem Judah to travel in the land of Moab, he, and his wife, and his two sons. 2 And the name of the man was Elimeleh, and his wife's name Noemin, and the name of his two sons Maalon and Helaion, Ephrathites of Bethlehem of Judah, and they came to the land of Moab, and were there. 3 And Elimeleh the husband of Noemin died; and she was left, and her two sons. 4 And they took to themselves wives, women of Moab; the name of the one was Orpha, and the name of the second Ruth; and they lived there about ten years. 5 And both Maalon and Helaion died also; and the woman was without her husband and her two sons. 6 And she rose up and her two daughters-in-law and they returned out of the country of Moab, for she heard in the country of Moab that the Lord *had* visited his people to give them bread.

7 And she went forth out of the place where she was, and her two daughters-in-law with her; and they went by the way to return to the land of Judah. 8 And Noemin said to her daughter-in-law, Go now, return each to the house of her mother; the Lord deal mercifully with you, as ye have dealt with the dead, and with me. 9 The Lord grant you that ye may find rest each of you in the house of her husband; and she kissed them; and they lifted up their voice, and wept. 10 And they said to her, We *will* return with thee to thy people. 11 And Noemin said, Return now, my daughters; and why do ye go with me? Have I yet sons in my belly to be your husbands? 12 Turn now, my daughters, for I am too old to be married; for I said, Suppose I were married, and should bear sons; 13 will ye wait for them till they should be grown? Or would ye refrain from being married for their sakes? Not so, my daughters; for it has become bitter to me for you, that the hand of the Lord has gone forth against me.

14 And they lifted up their voice, and wept again; and Orpha kissed her mother-in-law and returned to her people; but Ruth followed her. 15 And Noemin said to Ruth, Behold, thy sister-in-law has returned to her people and to her gods; return now thou also after thy sister-in-law. 16 And Ruth said, Entreat me not to leave thee, or to return from following thee; for wherever thou goes, I will go, and wherever thou lodges, I will lodge; thy people *shall be* my people, and thy God my God. 17 And wherever thou dies, I will die, and there will I be buried, the Lord do so to me, and more also, *if I leave*, for death *only* shall separate thee and me.

Ruth 2

18 And Noemin seeing that she is determined to go with her stopped speaking to her any more. 19 And they went both of them until they came to Bethlehem. And it came to pass, when they arrived at Bethlehem, that all the city rang with them, and they said, Is this Noemin? 20 And she said to them, Nay, do not call me Noemin; call me "Bitter," for the Mighty One has dealt very bitterly with me. 21 I went out full, and the Lord has brought me back empty, and why calls ye me Noemin, whereas the Lord has humbled me and the Mighty One has afflicted me? 22 So Noemin and Ruth the Moabite, her daughter-in-law, returned from the country of Moab; and they came to Bethlehem in the beginning of *the* barley harvest.

Chapter 2

And Noemin had an acquaintance of her husband, and the man *was* a mighty man of the lineage of Elimeleh, and his name *was* Booz. 2 And Ruth the Moabite said to Noemin, Let me go now to the field, and I will glean among the ears behind the man in whoever's eyes I shall find favor; and she said to her, Go, daughter. 3 And she went; and came and gleaned in the field behind the reapers; and she happened by chance to come on a portion of the land of Booz, of the lineage of Elimeleh. 4 And, behold, Booz came from Bethlehem, and said to the reapers, The Lord *be* with you, and they said to him, The Lord bless thee. 5 And Booz said to his slave who was set over the reapers, Whose *is* this maiden? 6 And his slave who was set over the reapers answered and said, It is the Moabite maiden who returned with Noemin out of the land of Moab.

7 And she said, I pray you, let me glean and gather among the handfuls after the reapers: and she came and stood from morning till evening, and rested not a little in the field. 8 And Booz said to Ruth, Has thou not heard, daughter? Do not glean in another field; and depart not thou hence, join thyself here with my maidens. 9 Thine eyes *be* on the field where *my slaves* shall reap, and thou shall go after them; behold, I have charged the young men not to touch thee, and when you shall thirst, then thou shall go to the vessels, and drink of that which the young men shall have drawn. 10 And she fell upon her face, and did reverence to the ground, and said to him, How is it that I have found grace in thine eyes, that thou should take notice of me, and *seeing* I am a stranger? 11 And Booz answered and said to her, It has been fully *to* told me how thou has dealt with thy mother-in-law after the death of thy husband; and how thou did leave thy father and thy mother, and the land of thy birth, and came to a people whom thou did not know yesterday and *the third day ago*. 12 The Lord reward thy work; may a full reward be given thee of the Lord God of Israel, to whom thou has come to trust under his wings.

Ruth 3

13 And she said, Let me find grace in thy sight, my lord, because thou has comforted me, and because thou has spoken to the heart of thy handmaid, and behold, I shall be as one of thy slaves. 14 And Booz said to her, Now *it is* time to eat; come here, and thou shall eat of the bread, and thou shall dip thy morsel in the vinegar; and Ruth sat by the side of the reapers; and Booz heaped up to her meal, and she ate, and was satisfied, and departed. 15 And she rose up to glean; and Booz charged his young men, saying, Let her even glean among the sheaves, and shamed her not. 16 And do ye most assuredly carry it for her, and ye shall surely let some fall for her of that which is piled up; and let her eat, and glean, and rebuke her not.

17 So she gleaned in the field till evening, and beat out that she had gleaned, and it was about an ephah of wheat. 18 And she took *it*, and went into the city, and her mother-in-law saw what she had gleaned, and Ruth brought forth and gave to her the food, which she had left from what she had been satisfied with. 19 And her mother-in-law said to her, Where has thou gleaned today, and where has thou wrought? Blessed be he that took notice of thee. And Ruth told her mother-in-law where she wrought, and said, The name of the man with whom I wrought this day *is* Booz. 20 And Noemin said to her daughter-in-law, Blessed is he of the Lord, because he has not failed in his mercy with the living and with the dead; and Noemin said to her, The man is a close relation to us, he is one of our relatives. 21 And Ruth said to her mother-in-law, Yea, he said also to me, Keep close to my maidens, until the men shall have finished all my reaping. 22 And Noemin said to Ruth her daughter-in-law, *It is* well, daughter, that thou went out with his maidens; thus they shall not meet thee in another field. 23 And Ruth joined herself to the maidens of Booz to glean until they had finished the barley harvest and the wheat harvest.