

Ruth

“A Story of Faith”

“Flight to Moab; Return Home”

Text: Ruth 1 – 2 – Barley Harvest

Text: Ruth 3-4 – Wheat Harvest

Ruth

“A Story of Faith”

“Flight to Moab; Return Home”

Text: Ruth 1 – 2 – Passover

Text: Ruth 3-4 – Pentecost



Mediterranean Sea

Damascus

BASHAN

AMMON

Bethlehem

MOAB

JUDAH

NEGEV

EDOM

Desert of Zin

THE
Story OF Ruth
RUTH 1:1-18

Why is she the Cinderella of the OT?

- Name: “Beautiful, desirable”
- Most unlikely heroin and candidate for greatness in a Jewish love story?

Why?

- A gentile, Moabite
- A childless widow in a foreign land
- Totally destitute and on welfare.

THE
Story OF Ruth
RUTH 1:1-18

Why is she the Cinderella of the OT?

- Note: Ruth 2:3 “Happened upon”
- Rabbi’s: “Coincidence is not a kosher word.”

THE
Story OF Ruth
RUTH 1:1-18

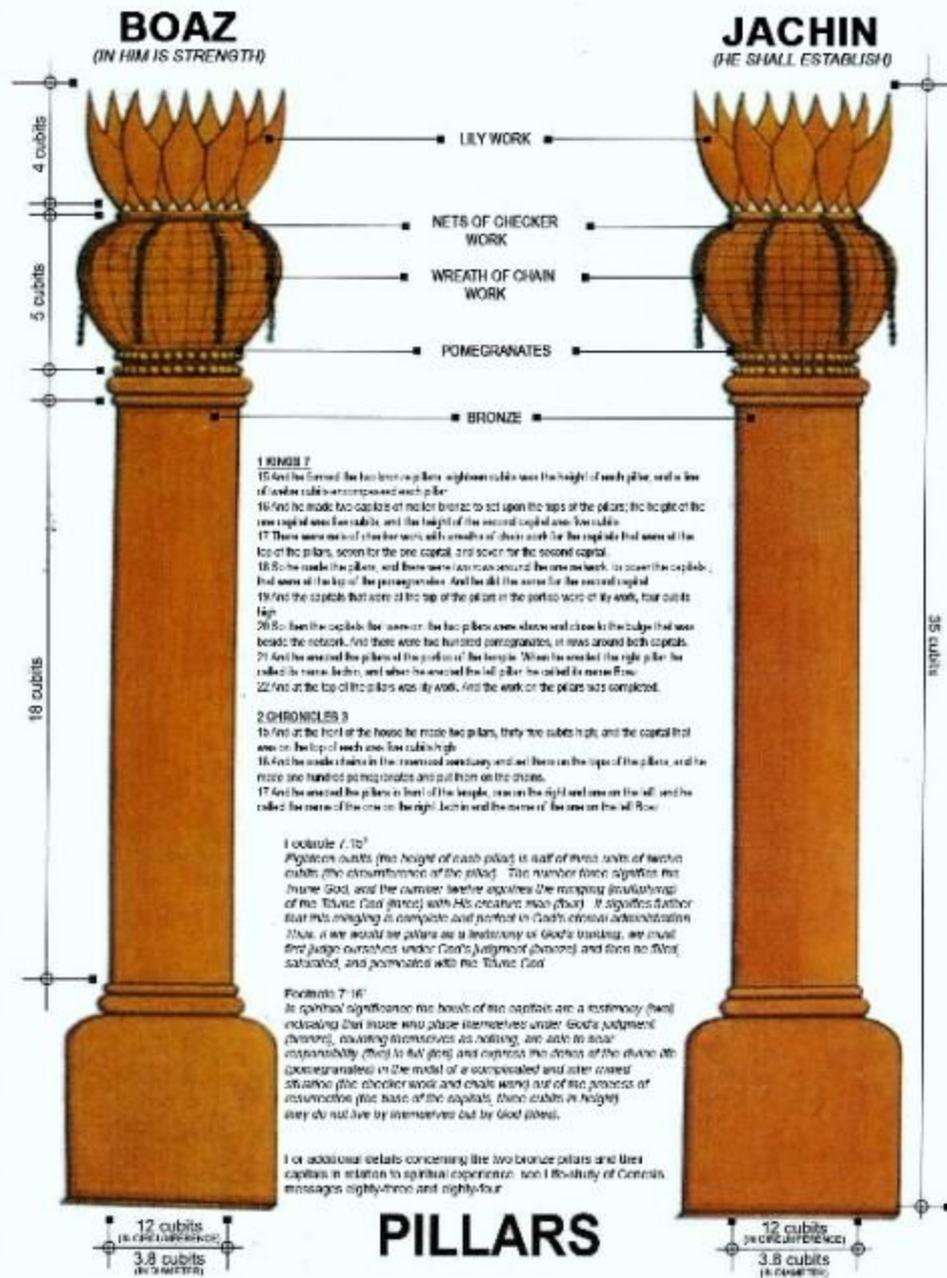
How is Boaz a type of Christ?

- Name: “In Jehovah is my strength”
- Comes from Bethlehem, Judah.
- He is the kinsman redeemer, voluntarily redeems her for love
- Boaz is the bridegroom faithful and true.
- Meets Naomi and Ruth’s every need
- Boaz is the Lord of the Harvest!

THE Story OF Ruth

How is Boaz a type of Christ?

- Takes on a Gentile bride.
- Law of Gleaning : Deut 24:19-22, Lev 19:9
 - A provision for the kinsman of Israel.
 - A Moabite sister-in-law was not technically qualified. So, what does this demonstrate?
 - **GRACE!**
 - Solomon named one of pillars of the temple after Boaz (I Kings 7:15-24)



THE
Story OF Ruth
RUTH 1:1-18

- Thought questions for next week:
 - How does the **Kinsman-Redeemer Law** (Lev 25:47-50) and the **law of Redemption** prove to be Messianic?
 - Examine the **five things Naomi tells Ruth** to do if she expects to win the heart of Boaz (Ruth 3:3-5)!

Law of Redemption Lev 25:47-50

THE Story OF Ruth

Original Land Grants



Law of Redemption

Lev 25:47-50

THE
Story OF Ruth
RUTH 1:1-18

Three requirements:

- Near Kinsman
- Be able - vindicator
- Be willing - restorer

#1

Briefly describe how Naomi came to find herself in dire straits (1:1-5).

Because of a famine in Judah, Naomi's husband (Elimelech) and their 2 sons (Mahlon and Chilion) went to live in Moab. The 2 sons took Moabite wives but later Elimelech and the 2 sons all died, leaving Naomi and her daughters-in-law with no one to provide for them.

#2

What were the 2 scenarios that Naomi considered as the future for her daughters-in-law?

The only situations that Naomi seemed to consider were: 1) that her daughters-in-law should leave her and find Moabite husbands to provide for them and Naomi would go home to Bethlehem; or 2) that Naomi would marry and provide sons for them (1:8-13).

#3

What 5 declarations did Ruth make to Naomi (followed by an oath) in affirming her intention to go with her (1:16-17)?

- 1. Where you go, I will go*
- 2. Where you lodge, I will lodge*
- 3. Your people shall be my people*
- 4. Your God [shall be] my God*
- 5. Where you die, I will die (and be buried)*

#4

What do you think motivated her to take this position?

The only thing that could have caused her to declare her desire to go with Naomi would have been Naomi herself. That is, Naomi had to have been of such character that she not only caused Ruth (and to some extent, Orpah) to want to remain with her, but to serve Jehovah as well.

#5

What sacrifices did Ruth make in deciding to return with Naomi? What was so significant about her oath?

The significance of her statement is that Ruth was willing to give up her culture, her family, her friends, everything that was familiar to her, her god(s), and, to some extent, her identity, to live in a foreign land with foreign customs and (possibly) a foreign tongue.

The significance of her oath was that she did not swear by Chemosh, but by Jehovah. This indicates her faith in God.

#6

Upon their arrival in Bethlehem, what did Ruth propose that she do? Was this stealing? Why or why not?

Because it was barley harvest season (1:22), Ruth suggested that she go out to the fields and glean.

This was not stealing as it was authorized within the Old Law (Leviticus 19:9-10, Deuteronomy 24:19-22) as a way of providing for widows, the poor, etc.

#7

What can you see in the events of [2:3-7](#) that hinted at Ruth's quality of character?

First of all, she is determined to help provide for herself and Naomi in an honorable manner.

Secondly, she was courteous to the workers.

Thirdly, she asked permission to glean the fields.

Fourthly, she seemed to be diligent in her efforts.

#8

What 4 general instructions did Boaz give Ruth (2:8-9)? What reason did Boaz give for instructing Ruth so?

1. *Don't glean anywhere else but here*
2. *Stay close to my women; glean the field that they are reaping*
3. *When you are thirsty, drink their water*
4. *Don't be afraid of my young men*

Continued on next slide

#8

What 4 general instructions did Boaz give Ruth (2:8-9)? What reason did Boaz give for instructing Ruth so?

Boaz had heard of Ruth's devotion to Naomi, even at the cost of her native land and family; he also recognized that Ruth had abandoned her idolatrous life and sought protection from the Lord.

#9

Later on, what did Boaz do for her (2:14)? What instructions did he give his servants?

Boaz gave food to her to eat when it was mealtime.

He told his servants to let her essentially reap and not just glean and not to chastise her for doing it. He also told them to even pull out some bundles to leave on the ground for her to take (2:15-16). Earlier, he indicated that he had told his young men to not touch her (2:9).

#10

How long did she work that day?
What 2 things did she take to Naomi?

Ruth gleaned until evening and then beat out what she had gleaned – surely a full day's work (2:17).

She took barley she had gleaned (about an ephah) and the roasted grain that was left over from her meal in the field (2:17-18).

TRUE/FALSE

11. T F *Ruth continued her gleaning through the end of the barley harvest. (2:23)*
12. T F *Naomi felt that it was a mistake for Ruth to work with the servants of Boaz. (2:22)*
13. T F *When Naomi and Ruth came into Bethlehem, everyone took notice. (1:19)*
14. T F *Naomi decided to return to Bethlehem because she heard that the famine had lifted. (1:6)*
15. T F *Naomi lived in Moab about 10 years. (1:4)*

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Final Lesson

“The Kinsman Redeemer”

Text: Ruth 3 – 4

