Ruth -A Virtuous Woman Ruth 1:1-5

Elimelech Takes His Family To Moab

- Reasons not to go to Moab.
 - Incestuous origin between Lot and his daughter. Genesis 19:30-38
 - King of Moab hired Balaam to curse Israel. Numbers 22-24
 - Recent oppression by Eglon, king of Moab. Judges 3:15-30 (Killed by Ehud)
 - Moabite culture and god, Chemosh. cf. 2 Kings 3:27
- Yet, there was rain in Moab. cf. 1:1



Ruth Was A Faithful Follower Of God

Words of commitment to Naomi. 1:16-17

16 And Ruth said, Entreat me not to leave thee, and 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;

17 where thou diest, will I die, and there will I be buried: Jehovah do so to me, and more also, if aught but death part thee and me."

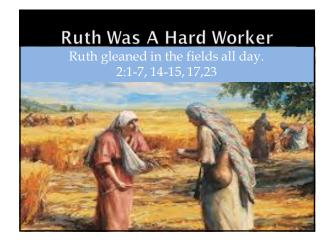
Ruth Was Loyal To Naomi

- Ruth had opportunity to return to Moab. 1:8-14
- Level of Ruth's commitment to Naomi. 1:16-18; cf. 4:15 "... for thy daughter-inlaw, who loveth thee, who is better to thee than seven sons..."

Loyalty Is Important

- Loyal to God and His word. Joshua 24:15-21; Judges 2:10; cf. Deuteronomy 6:4-12
- □ Loyal to our <u>spouses</u>. Genesis 2:24; Matthew 19:3-9
- □ Loyal to our <u>children</u>. Ephesians 6:4; Exodus 12; Joshua 4
- Loyal to our <u>parents</u>. Ephesians 6:1; 1 Timothy
 5:4-8
- Loyal to our <u>brethren</u>. Romans 12:9-10;
 Hebrews 13:5; 10:32-35

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Hard Work Is Important

- Ephesians 4:28 Work to help others. (cf. 2 Thessalonians 3:10)
- Ephesians 6:5-9 Day's work for a day's pay.
- Ecclesiastes 9:10 "Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do (it) with thy might; for there is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom, in Sheol, whither thou goest."
- □ Lamentations 3:27 "It is good for a man that he bear the yoke in his youth."

Ruth Had A Good Reputation

- Ruth faithful to God. 1:16
- Loyal to Naomi. 1:16-17; 4:15
- Hard worker. Chapter 2
- Good reputation:
 - Left everything to be with Naomi. 2:11
 - Everyone knows her to be a worthy woman. 3:11; cf. Proverbs 31

Good Reputation Important

- Proverbs 22:1 "A (good) name is rather to be chosen than great riches, (And) loving favor rather than silver and gold."
- Ecclesiastes 7:1 "A (good) name is better than precious oil; and the day of death, than the day of one's birth."
- cf. Matthew 5:13-16; Philippians 2:12-16; Ephesians 5:1-12

Rewards Of Ruth's Character

- Boaz cares for Ruth.
 - Kinsman who favors Ruth. 2:8, 15
 - Gave her 6 measures of grain. 3:17
- $\ \ \square$ Ruth requests redemption from Boaz. 3:1-18
 - By back inheritance. Note 3:9; 4:3ff
 - Kinsman nearer than Boaz. 4:1-6
- Ruth receives redemption from Boaz. 4:7-12
- Ruth becomes wife to Boaz. 4:13

Rewards Of Ruth's Character

- > Ruth has a child Obed. 4:17
- "And the women her neighbors gave it a name, saying, There is a son born to Naomi; and they called his name <u>Obed: he is the father of Jesse, the father of David</u>. Now these are the generations of Perez: Perez begat Hezron, and Hezron begat Ram, and Ram begat Amminadab, and Amminadab begat Nahshon, and Nahshon begat Salmon, and Salmon begat Boaz, and Boaz begat Obed, and <u>Obed begat Jesse</u>, and Jesse begat David."

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Rewards Of Ruth's Character

- > Ruth has a child Obed. 4:17 (worshiper)
- ☐ The name Obed occurs only in Ruth 4:17 and in the four genealogies (Ruth 4:21-22; 1 Chronicles 2:12; Matthew 1:5; Luke 3:32).

Ruth Was A Virtuous Woman Because...

- She was faithful to God.
- She was loyal to Naomi.
- She was willing to work hard.
- She maintained a good reputation.

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