

Ruth 1:1-7 - Study Guide

“Glimmer of Hope”

Background Information

The book of Ruth is being written during the time period of the Judges. This was a very dark and difficult time for the nation of Israel (1381-1051 B.C.). This time period is best described as a time when “everyone did what was right in their own eyes”. Over and over again, the nation of Israel would turn from obeying the Lord their God, they would rebel against His laws and statutes and turn to idol worship and false gods. This would lead to famine, to wars and bondage to their surrounding enemies. They would eventually cry out to the Lord and He would raise up a “Judge”, a man or a woman who would lead the people in repentance back to the Lord where God would deliver them. But this happened again and again. This incredible true story recorded in the book of Ruth is occurring during this same time period.

Basic Outline of Today’s Study

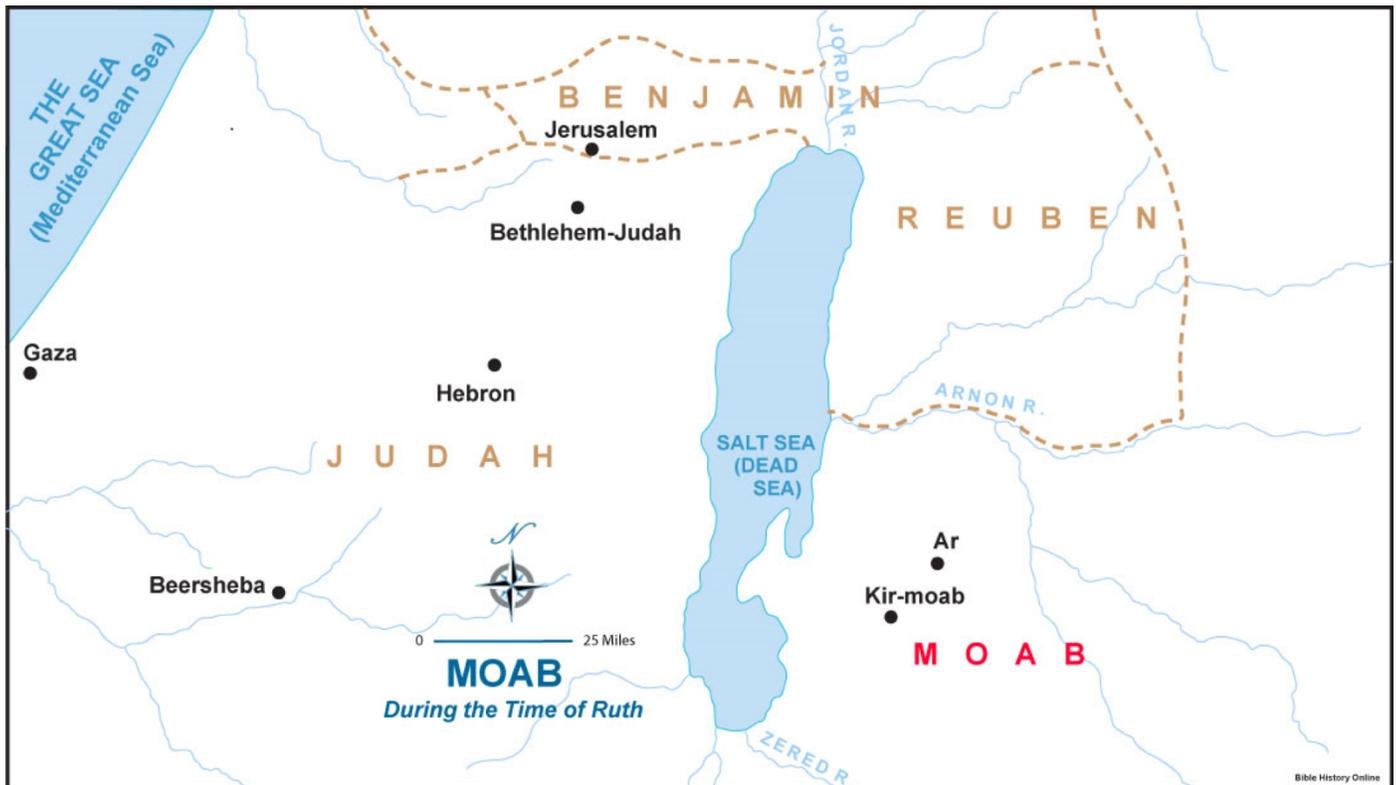
1. The Famine (vs1-2)
2. The Family (vs1-2)
3. The Intended Response (vs1-2)
4. The Actual Result (vs3-5)
5. Glimmer of Hope (6-7)

Something Helpful:

ESTABLISH THE CONTEXT
A TIMELINE OF ISRAEL'S HISTORY

“in the days when the **JUDGES** governed”
 (Note: All dates are approximations & time gaps NOT to scale)

Exodus	40 Years	Israel Enters Canaan	JUDGES	Saul	David	Messiah
Redemption from Slavery	Wilderness Wandering	Canaan Conquered Joshua Dies	LIGHT of book of RUTH Shines forth in Dark Days of Judges	To obey is better than sacrifice	Man after God's Own Heart	The Lamb that was slain
--	40 yrs	~24 yrs	350+ yrs	40 yrs	40 yrs	Forever
MESSIAH'S LINE		To Salmon was born Boaz by Rahab	To Boaz was born Obed by Ruth	To Obed was born Jesse	To Jesse was born David the King	Jesus Christ the Lord
1445BC	1445 -1405	1405 -1381	1381-1051	1051-1011	1011-971	4AD



Reference Verses:

Time period of the Judges

Judges 21:25 In those days there was no king in Israel; everyone did what was right in his own eyes.

Famine in the land of promise

Number 13:27 Then they told him, and said: “We went to the land where you sent us. It truly flows with milk and honey, and this is its fruit.”

Deuteronomy 11:13-15 ‘And it shall be that if you earnestly obey My commandments which I command you today, to love the Lord your God and serve Him with all your heart and with all your soul, then I will give you the rain for your land in its season, the early rain and the latter rain, that you may gather in your grain, your new wine, and your oil. And I will send grass in your fields for your livestock, that you may eat and be filled.’

Zechariah 10:1 Ask the Lord for rain in the time of the latter rain. The Lord will make flashing clouds; He will give them showers of rain, Grass in the field for everyone.

Marrying a Moabite

Deuteronomy 23:3-4,6 An Ammonite or Moabite shall not enter the assembly of the Lord; even to the tenth generation none of his descendants shall enter the assembly of the Lord forever, because they did not meet you with bread and water on the road when you came out of Egypt, and because they hired against you Balaam the son of Beor from Pethor of Mesopotamia, to curse you... You shall not seek their peace nor their prosperity all your days forever.

Truth for the Trial

John 6:68 But Simon Peter answered Him, “Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.

2 Samuel 24:14 I am in great distress. Please let us fall into the hand of the Lord, for His mercies are great; but do not let me fall into the hand of man

John 6:35 And Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life. He who comes to Me shall never hunger, and he who believes in Me shall never thirst.