

Ruth 1:6-22

A Return With Promise

1:6-13 – Naomi's Despair

- a. 6 - "*the LORD had visited*" - A remnant returns in the day of the LORD's visitation.
 - i. "*heard...how...in giving them bread*" - the LORD was always there John 6:26-35
- b. 7-8 - "*Go*" She tells two daughters return to their mother's house (isn't that Bethlehem?)
- c. 9 - "*find rest... in the house of her husband*" → Away from Israel, to marry other gods.
- d. 10 - "*we will return with thee unto thy people*" - the daughters understand.
- e. 11-12 "*Why will ye go with me?*" Naomi's despair on display, lacking hope in the LORD
- f. "*if I should say, I have hope*" - Her hope was in husbands, sons, inheritance, Moab.
- g. 13 "*nay, my daughters*" - Feeling sorry for God 'for your sakes', she apologizes for Him
 - i. She doesn't see hope in God's covenant promises as she suffers (but Jesus?)

2. 1:14-18 – Ruth's Devotion

- a. Orpah wanted to stay yet went back "unto her gods" with Naomi's encouragement.
- b. 14 - "*but Ruth clave unto her*" - a picture of faithfulness, true love not seeking her own
 - i. Ruth acts like Jacob, when the daughter of Jacob does not - Gen 32:24-29
- c. 15 - Ruth follows the principle of her future son in taking up her cross - Mark 8:31-38
- d. 16 - "*and Ruth said*" testimony of a devoted daughter dedicated to the LORD. Ze 8:23
 - i. "*Intreat me not*" - Don't ask me to leave. (The LORD says 'Come' Rev 22:17)
 - ii. Naomi should've promised blessing if they followed - Num 10:29-32, Gen 12:3
- e. The Five-fold Promise: I will go, I will live with you, thy people, thy God, to death.
 - i. Re: marriage - leave & cleave, go as one, one house, under God, in life and death
 - ii. Not → you choose vacations, the house, our friends, and our religion/church.
 - iii. Ruth was cursed with Naomi but sees hope where Naomi doesn't - Rom 3:3
 - iv. She forgets her own people, house, gods, for the hope of the LORD - Ps 45:10+
 - v. She joins with the land, seed, house of Judah, to be blessed by the God of Israel.
 - vi. "*thy God my God*" - She knows the LORD (Jehovah) already - Ruth 1:17
- f. 17 - "*and there will I be buried*" - Proof of conversion and commitment to the land.
 - i. "*The LORD do so to me*" - a solemn vow instead of receiving Naomi's 'blessing'
 - ii. "*if ought but death part thee and me*" - the power of death - Hos 13:14, Heb 2:14
 - iii. This Moabite woman shows faith not found in Israel Naomi - Mt 8:9-10, 15:21-28
- g. 18 - No hug, no kiss. Naomi left speechless to speak against her - Rom 10:21, Lk 21:15

3. 1:19-22 – Naomi's Return to Bethlehem

- a. 19 - "*they two went*" - Naomi returned to Bethlehem with a devoted daughter.
 - i. "*Is this Naomi?*" - Is this God's delight? A remnant returns. Yes, but Exo 15:22+
- b. 20 - "*Call me Mara*" She said God was bitter, but her bitterness blinds her - Isa 5:1-5, 13
- c. Before Israel is pleasant again, they must return to the LORD - Mal 3:1-7, Jer 3:17-23
- d. 21 - "*went out full...*" - in judgment and famine? Amos 4:6 What hope was in Moab?
 - i. "*brought me home again empty*" as Ruth carries her bags - 1:18-19
 - ii. "*why then... seeing the LORD...?*" - This question answered in ch 4:14-15
 - iii. "*testified against me*" - Ruth spoke a fivefold grace; Naomi utters a fivefold grief
- e. 22 - "*her daughter in law, with her*" - Naomi's words betray what is happening.
 - i. The weeping prophet gave hope to the later remnant - Jer 31:7-12
 - ii. The Lord who scatters will gather, who punishes will save, leaves childless will...
- f. "*in the beginning of barley harvest*" - the grain was ready, the beginning of hope.