

**“Historical Books Of The Bible”**  
**Ruth 1:1-5**  
**Wednesday August 7, 2013**

**The Formula For Spiritual Emptiness: Unbelief plus rebellion plus bitterness equals emptiness.**

**The Formula For Spiritual Life: Faith plus submission plus gratitude equals satisfaction.**

**Background/Overview Of Ruth:**

**Ruth** – Hebrew name “friendship or association”

**The Author** – The book does not reveal who the author is, but The Jewish Talmud attributes it to Samuel.

**When Written** – Period of the Judges. Covers 30 years of time. Ruth 1:1

**Where it was Written** – Israel; took place short period in Moab then Bethlehem.

**Purpose** – A Book of Redemption

**Theme** – “Love in Dark Times”

**Key Words** – Kinsman-Redeemer 13X

**Key Chapter** – Ruth 4

**Key Passage** – Ruth 1:16; Ruth 3:11

**Outline:**

**Ruth 1 – Ruth’s Sorrow** – Weeping and sorrow.

**Ruth 2 – Ruth’s Service** – Working and service.

**Ruth 3 – Ruth’s Surrender** – Waiting and submission.

**Ruth 4 – Ruth’s Satisfaction** – Wedding and satisfaction.

**1. Verse 1 – The Setting Of Ruth:**

**2. Verses 1-2 – A Dishonoring Choice:**

**3. Verses 3-5 – A Miserable Experience:**

## **1. Verse 1 – The Setting Of Ruth:**

Ruth 1:1

Israel did not take the land and claim their inheritance.

Israel became indifferent to the Lord.

Apathy set in.

Israel fell into apostasy.

Anarchy followed, as Israel disobeyed and fell away from the Lord, pursuing their own interests.

Judg. 17:6

“In those days there was no king in Israel;” – Israel had rejected the Lord.

1 Samuel – The people get man's king named Saul.

2 Samuel – Is God's king; His name was David

This, the last verse of Judges, sums up the condition of the people. Judg. 21:25

Judg. 6:1-6

## **2. Verses 1-2 – A Dishonoring Choice:**

Ruth 1:1

Lev. 26:3-4

Lev. 26:14-16

Judges 6:1-6

Deut. 28:15

Deut. 28:23-24

We Can Respond In 2 Ways:

1. We can be driven to God and repent of our sins.

2. We can be driven away from God and kept by our sins.

“And a certain man” – Verse 2 tells us who it is; Elimelech – “My God is king”  
“of Bethlehem” – “The house of bread”, Judah – “Praise”

Moab – Were descendants of Abraham’s nephew Lot. (Genesis 19:30 -38)

Deut. 23:3-4

Numbers 25 – Moabite women seduced Israel and 24,000 died because of it.

Judges 3:12-14 – Moabites and Ammonites ruled for 18 years.

Ruth 1:2

“his wife, Naomi” – “my delight, the pleasant one”

“two sons were Mahlon” – root word “to be rubbed or worn; (figurative) to be weak, sick, afflicted”; This was the husband of Ruth, Ruth 4:10.

“Chilion” – “the pining one”

“of Bethlehem” – “fruitful house of bread”

#### 4 Reason's Why People Move To Moab:

##### 1. People Live By Sight Not By Faith

Deut. 23:3

Gen. 12:10

##### 2. Not Living For The Spiritual/Eternal But The Physical/Temporal.

Matthew 4:3-4

2 Kin. 5

Gen 25:29-34

##### 3. Not Living For The Lord But For The World. Judg. 21:25

##### 4. The Real Problem Is Ignored

### **3. Verses 3-5 – A Miserable Experience:**

Ruth 1:3

“Naomi's husband, died;” – The first miserable experience was the loss of her husband.

Ruth 1:4

“And they took for themselves Moabite women as wives;” – Deut. 7:3-4

Naomi disobeyed God by letting her sons intermarry with the world.

Orpah – “gazelle”; There are lots of gazelle's in Moab, but it is still wrong.

Ruth – “friendship”

Ruth 1:5

Job 9:4

Hebrews 12:11

### **Application:**

1. Live By Faith Not Merely By Sight. Hold On To The Promises Of God.
2. Live For The Spiritual, Not Merely The Physical. Everything We See Will Pass Away. (Temporal Versus The Eternal)
3. Live For The Lord, Not For The World. Renew Your Mind Through The Word. (Romans 12:2)
4. The Real Problem Is Not Found In The Outward But Inward. (Romans 7:21)