

Introduction to Ruth

Ruth - 8th book (#8 - new beginning) in the KJB and is one of the historical books.

Ruth is one of two books in the Bible given a woman's name (the other is Esther).

The book of Ruth has 4 chapters, 85 verses, and 2,574 words.

The events of the book of Ruth take place during the period of the judges. - Ruth 1:1, sometime around 1300 B.C., when Israel is in apostasy has no king (Judges 21:25).

The book of Ruth stands in contrast to the book of Judges, which ended in great despair because of the sinfulness and apostasy of fallen man. The book of Ruth ends in great expectation and anticipation of the return of the "KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS", who is the Lord Jesus Christ. - Rev. 19:16

The book of Ruth records one of God's most romantic events, which is a love story of a young widow who comes to believe in the one true God, finds the love of her life in the process, and ends up in the line of the Lord Jesus Christ. - Matt. 1:1-5 (Ruth is the great-grandmother of David.)

In the book of Ruth, God writes a prophesy about the Gentile Bride of Christ some 1300 years **before** Christ comes to earth and **before** it is revealed to the Apostle Paul.

God uses the book of Ruth to show His **great love** for all mankind which was demonstrated at the Cross of Calvary. - John 3:16; Rom. 5:8; 1 John 4:10, 19; Eph. 2:4

The book of Ruth also clearly shows God's protective care, providence, and God's ability to carry out His own divine purposes, **even while** men exercise their free will.

The primary significance of this book is its prophesy and typology. (Describe typology by reading pp. 27-33 of "**At His Feet**" by Bro. Bob Leib)

We will see a Gentile (1:4) woman (Ruth) who joins the Jews and gets in on the Jewish blessings, which means Ruth is a type of the Bride of Christ. - Eph. 2:11-19

The hero of the story is not only Ruth, but also Boaz in his role as "kinsman redeemer" representing the Lord Jesus Christ.-Gal. 3:13; Rev. 5:9; 1 Pet. 1:18-19

One practical application of the book of Ruth for believers today is that God directs the circumstances of our lives (both good and bad) to work them together for our good and His own glory. - Rom. 8:28; 2 Cor. 5:7 The book also teaches believers submission to authority → God, the word of God, pastors, church, kings, police, parents, spouses, and even one another.-Rom. 13:1-7; Heb. 13:7, 17, 24; Eph. 5:21-24

REVIEW OF THE MAIN TYPES FOUND IN THE BOOK OF RUTH

Boaz - Represents Jesus Christ as our Jewish "Kinsman Redeemer" - John 4:22

Ruth - Represents Christ's Gentile Bride (the Church, the Body of Christ) (APPLY IT!!)

Naomi - Represents the Jews who are scattered in the Dispersion