Lessons From The Life Of A Godly Great-Great-Grandma

May 13, 2018
Lessons From A Godly Great-Grandma

The Book Of Ruth

- One Of 2 Bible Books Named For Women - (Esther)
- Takes Place In The Time Of Judges - (Before the First King)
- Begins In Moab - (Located East Of The Dead Sea)
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- **RUTH**: Takes Place During Harvest Time
- Is Read By The Jews Yearly At Feast Of Pentecost
- Written During The Times Of David
- Jewish Tradition = Authored By Samuel
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Main Themes And Purposes Of Ruth

◦ The Honor Of Selfless Giving & Love
◦ The Rewards Of Righteous Obedience
◦ The Power Of A Godly Family In Times Of Hardship & Moral Decline
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- **Ruth** A Moabite widow who won a place among the people of God.

- **Naomi** A Hebrew woman who knew tragedy, but rediscovered happiness through the faithfulness of Ruth, her Moabite daughter-in-law.

- **Boaz** A godly Hebrew man, who accepted a kinsman's responsibility and married Ruth, to the benefit of all three.
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CHAPTER 1 --- Ruth's Choice (1:11-18)

Ruth 1:16-17 (NIV) (16) But Ruth replied, "Don't urge me to leave you or to turn back from you. Where you go I will go, and where you stay I will stay. Your people will be my people and your God my God.

(17) Where you die I will die, and there I will be buried. May the LORD deal with me, be it ever so severely, if anything but death separates you and me."
CHAPTER 2 --- Ruth's Labors (2:1-3)

Ruth 2:2-3 (NIV) (2) And Ruth the Moabitess said to Naomi, "Let me go to the fields and pick up the leftover grain behind anyone in whose eyes I find favor." Naomi said to her, "Go ahead, my daughter." (3) So she went out and began to glean in the fields behind the harvesters. As it turned out, she found herself working in a field belonging to Boaz, who was from the clan of Elimelech.
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CHAPTER 3 --- Boaz's Choice (3:11)

Ruth 3:11 (NIV) (11) And now, my daughter, don't be afraid. I will do for you all you ask. All my fellow townsmen know that you are a woman of noble character.
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CHAPTER 4 --- BOAZ MARRIES RUTH (4:9-12; 13-17)

Ruth 4:9-12 (NIV) (9) Then Boaz announced to the elders and all the people, 'Today you are witnesses that I have bought from Naomi all the property of Elimelech, Kilion and Mahlon. (10) I have also acquired Ruth the Moabitess, Mahlon's widow, as my wife, in order to maintain the name of the dead with his property, so that his name will not disappear from among his family or from the town records. Today you are witnesses!' (11) Then the elders and all those at the gate said, 'We are witnesses. May the LORD make the woman who is coming into your home like Rachel and Leah, who together built up the house of Israel. May you have standing in Ephrathah and be famous in Bethlehem. (12) Through the offspring the LORD gives you by this young woman, may your family be like that of Perez, whom Tamar bore to Judah.'
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- **Obed's Birth (4:13-22)**

- **Ruth 4:13-17 (NIV)** (13) So Boaz took Ruth and she became his wife. Then he went to her, and the LORD enabled her to conceive, and she gave birth to a son. (14) The women said to Naomi: "Praise be to the LORD, who this day has not left you without a kinsman-redeemer. May he become famous throughout Israel! (15) He will renew your life and sustain you in your old age. For your daughter-in-law, who loves you and who is better to you than seven sons, has given him birth." (16) Then Naomi took the child, laid him in her lap and cared for him. (17) The women living there said, "Naomi has a son." And they named him Obed. He was the father of Jesse, the father of David.
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- A Redeeming Love Story
- Ruth & Boaz Were Faithful During A Time Of Apostasy
- They Do What They Should Do - The Way They Should Do It
- The Lord Uses Them To Accomplish His Higher Purpose
- Boaz Is A Type Of Christ – The Kinsman Redeemer
  He Redeemed The Life & Future Of Ruth & Naomi
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1. Lesson: Thru Struggle & Tragedy – Remain Faithful
2. Lesson: God’s Providence
3. Lesson: From Tragedy To Triumph
4. Lesson: God Turns Defeat Into Redemption
5. Lesson: Man’s Adversity Is God’s Opportunity
6. Lesson: Entry To God’s Kingdom Is By Faith
7. Lesson: God’s Kingdom = A Place For Jews & Gentiles By Faith
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- The Lesson Of Naomi - Of Returning To Faith
- Naomi illustrates how God can restore the impulsive and the backslider
- God Could Have Provided For Them Had They Waited It Out In Bethlehem
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NAOMI: Three Mistakes That We Must Avoid

1. Unbelief: Trying to run from our problems (1:1-5)

2. Deception: Trying to hide our mistakes (1:6-18)

3. Bitterness: Blaming God for our trials (1:19-22)
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Naomi’s Loss Led Her To Listen.

◦ It Was A Time Of Correction And Redirection

◦ It Was Time To Get Back Home
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- **Ruth Illustrates** *The Value Of Turning Life Around*
- **Ruth is a Moabite – With No Knowledge Of God**
- **She Makes A Turn Around – And Determines With Her Everything To Go Towards Him!**
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The Progression In Ruth Is Quite Remarkable

- She Is An Outsider – Brought Into The Family
- Becomes A Participant In The Covenant
- She is Brought In Through Relationship
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- RUTH SHOWS US That through faith we are brought into God's family. Not by lineage. By faith and obedience.

- God’s Plan Is Inclusive -- Available To All
  - A Plan Of Salvation
  - A Plan Of Blessing
  - A Plan For A Future

- Whosoever Believes On The Name Of The Lord Will Be Saved
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- **RUTH SHOWS US** There are rewards for hard work and persistence. Ruth did what she could do.

- **Ruth Made A Heart Decision To Go All In!**

- Ruth Volunteered To Go Into The Fields And Follow After The Harvesters And Collect Whatever They Missed

- **As She Takes That Step Of Faith – Boaz Comes Into The Story – He Is The Answer To Her Prayers And Her Faith**
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- **RUTH SHOWS US** how giving and self sacrifice are lifestyles that set you up for major blessings.

- **Ruth chose to deny herself in order to meet the needs of Naomi. In so doing, the Lord put her on the path of Boaz who became her husband.**
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- **RUTH SHOWS US** that God's provision and providence are sufficient in tough times.
- **READ:** (2 Pet 1:3-4) and (2 Cor 1:20)
- **Providence = God Pre-videos Our Lives** He Knows What We Need Ahead Of Time - Abraham; Noah; Joseph;
- **FOR RUTH AND NAOMI** - God Provided The Field -- The Food -- And The Faithful Man Of God: Boaz
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- Ruth shows us the picture of the kinsman redeemer (in Boaz)
- To “Redeem” means "To Set Free By Paying A Price."
- Jesus is our kinsman redeemer
- He has paid the price to ransom us
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- **RUTH SHOWS US** that God can turn things around and use both Ruth and Naomi to bring forth the Messiah.

- **From Ruth The Moabite**
- **To Ruth The Wife Of Boaz**
- **To Ruth Mentioned In The Genealogy Of Jesus**
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“Obed” Which Means “Servant”

- Obed = A Blessing To Many
- He Blessed Ruth & Boaz
- He Blessed Naomi (The Grandma)
- He Blessed Bethlehem
- He Blessed Israel
- He Blessed The Whole World – The Messiah

Never Underestimate The Power Of The Grace Of God.
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○ (Gal 4:4-5 NIV) But when the time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under law, (5) to redeem those under law, that we might receive the full rights of sons.

○ A Savior Who Came At Just The Right Time

○ He Saves Everyone Who Believes On His Name

○ Truly God Can Turn Things Around Mightily!!