

Ruth 1-4

Ruth 1-4 cover key themes of loyalty, redemption, and divine providence. They examine Ruth's commitment to Naomi, Boaz's role as kinsman-redeemer, and the transition from famine to blessing. Topics include the journey from Moab, gleaning in the fields, and the ancestral line of David.

• Chapter 1 - Loyalty and Loss.

- Why did Elimelech move his family, and what was the impact of their decisions (Ruth 1:1-5)?
- What is the significance of Naomi changing her name to Mara (1:20)?
- What were the contrasts between Ruth and Orpah's decisions and why do you think they made them. (1:14)?
- What do we learn about Ruth's character from her decision to follow Naomi and her statement in 1:16-17?

• Chapter 2 - Provision and Kindness.

- How is Boaz described (2:1)?
- What does Boaz's treatment of Ruth teach us about kindness, dignity, and generosity?
- Based on 2:8-9, what does this reveal about hesed (loving-kindness)?
- How does Ruth's work ethic and loyalty to Naomi influence the people around her?

• Chapter 3 - Risk and Redemption.

- What is the significance of Ruth going to the threshing floor?
- How does this show her trust in God and Naomi? Was Naomi's plan for Ruth a risk (3:1-5)?
- Why does Ruth ask Boaz to "spread the corner of your garment" over her?
- What is the role of a "kinsman-redeemer" (Goel), and why is this crucial for Naomi and Ruth's future?
- Why did Boaz bless Ruth (3:10)?

• Chapter 4 - Restoration and Family Legacy

- What did the first/nearest kinsman decide regarding the redemption and why (4:6)? What does this reveal about his priorities?
- How does God turn Naomi's emptiness into fullness by the end of the book?
- How does the story connect to King David and Yeshua? How does the inclusion of Ruth (a Moabite) in the genealogy of David and Yeshua impact our understanding of God's salvation plan?

Key Themes and Lessons

- Loyalty & Faithfulness: Ruth's loyalty to Naomi and God, even in adversity.
- Redemption: Boaz acting as the kinsman-redeemer, prefiguring Messiah's role.
- God's Providence: How God works behind the scenes to change bitterness into blessing.
- Repentance & Return: Naomi's transition back to God's favour.

Communion...

One of the passages associated with the Torah Portion, Leviticus 9:1–11:47, is Acts 10...

Acts 10 tells the pivotal story of Peter's vision of unclean animals and his subsequent meeting with the Gentile Cornelius, marking the inclusion of non-Jews into the early church. It signifies that God is impartial, the gospel is for all nations, and God's acceptance of Gentiles through faith.

- Cornelius, a Roman centurion, becomes the first Gentile to receive the Holy Spirit and baptism, opening the believers to the world.
- Peter declares that God does not show partiality, but accepts anyone from any nation who fears Him and wants to live on God's terms. Is this like what happened to Ruth?
- The passage emphasizes that it was God's plan to open the faith to Gentiles, not a decision initiated by the apostles themselves.

John 3:16-17: Yeshua died for the whoever shall believe... "For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.

God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through Him.

Later at Yeshua's return, people from every tongue, tribe, and nation shall be before Him... Revelation 7:9-10 After these things I looked, and behold, a vast multitude that no one could count—from every nation and all tribes and peoples and tongues—was standing before the throne and before the Lamb. They were clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands

and crying out with a loud voice, saying, "Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!"

Let us eat and drink being grateful for this wonderful salvation in Yeshua Messiah.