

IMPACT

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A Weekly Publication of the Metropolitan Bible Baptist Church Containing
Life-Changing Sunday School Lessons and BMA's Preaching Materials

VERSE TO MEMORIZE:

*"...Intreat me not to leave thee, or
to return from following after thee:
for wither thou goest, I will go; and
where thou lodgest, I will lodge:
thy people shall be my people, and
thy God, my God:"*

RUTH 1:16

INTRODUCTION TO THE BOOKS OF THE BIBLE

Lesson 08: BOOK OF RUTH

TITLE: The book is named after its principal character: Ruth. Her biography is outlined in this short story.

AUTHORSHIP: The author is unknown to us, though Samuel is suggested by some.

DATE OF RUTH: Though the events of the book occurred during the period of the judges (the latter part of the twelfth century B.C.), the book itself was not written until later. (Notice that the author felt compelled to explain the customs no longer practiced, 4:6-8). The last verses of the book trace Ruth's descendants only to King David, strongly suggesting that the book was written during his reign. If it had been written later, we would expect the genealogy to be extended beyond David to include Solomon.

KEY WORDS & THEMES:

(1) Ruth herself shows that Gentiles could believe in the true God. **(2)** The book gives a partial lineage of David, and thus of Christ, and shows that Gentile blood was in the line of the One who became the Savior for all mankind. **(3)** Boaz, as the kinsman-redeemer, serves as a beautiful type of Christ, in that **(a)** he was a blood relative (Romans 1:3; Heb. 2:14); **(b)** he had the price to which to purchase the forfeited inheritance (1 Peter 1:18-19); **(c)** he was willing to redeem (Heb. 10:7). **(4)** The book is a moving example of the sovereignty of God in caring for His people (Ruth 2:12).

KEY VERSES: Ruth 1:16-18; 4:1-22

HISTORICAL SETTING:

The setting for the book of Ruth begins in the country of Moab, a region northeast of the Dead Sea, but then moves to Bethlehem. This true account takes place during the dismal days of failure and rebellion of the Israelites called the period of Judges.

OUTLINE OF RUTH:

A. Ruth's Resolve, 1:1-22

1. Her Background, 1:1-5
2. Her Choice, 1:6-18
3. Her Arrival in Bethlehem, 1:19-22

B. Ruth's Rights

1. Her Right to Glean, 2:1-3
2. The Results of Her Gleaning, 2:4-17
 - 2.1. Boaz meets Ruth, 2:4-7
 - 2.2. Boaz protects Ruth, 2:8-13
 - 2.3. Boaz provides for Ruth, 2:14-16
3. The Report of her Gleaning, 2:17-23

C. Ruth's Requests, 3:1-18

1. Suggested by Naomi, 3:1-4
2. Executed by Ruth, 3:5-9
3. Agreed to by Boaz, 3:10-18

D. Ruth's Reward, 4:1-22

1. A Husband, 4:1-12
2. A Son, 4:13-17
3. A Lineage, 4:18-22

**STRAIGHT FROM THE
PASTOR'S HEART**

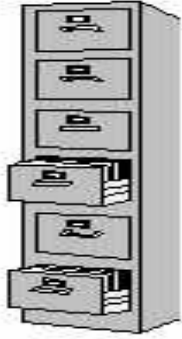
DR. BENNY M. ABANTE, JR.

PRACTICAL APPLICATION:

The book of Ruth reminds us that God honors and emphasizes the leadership qualities of loyalty and integrity. Ruth, a Moabite woman widowed at an early age, found herself acted with the option of abandoning her widowed mother-in-law or risking life in a foreign land. She chose to stay committed to her friend and mentor, Naomi and her uncommon decision ultimately paid off. Ruth illustrates that when leaders focus on doing what is right, God will bless the fruit of their labors. To qualify for such a blessing means placing responsibilities before results. Character must precede conduct. Faithfulness must precede fruitfulness. "Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness," Jesus reminds us, "and all these things shall be added unto you" (Matt.6:33)

—RYRIE Study Bible/The KJV Rainbow Study Bible/
The Maxwell Leadership Bible/BMA'S Messages

02/22/09



The **BMA** **ARCHIVES**

Dr. Benny M. Abante, Jr.'s
PREACHING MATERIALS

SUMMARY OF THE BOOK OF RUTH **-New Life Application Bible, KJV-**

When someone says, "Let me tell you about my mother-in-law," we expect some kind of negative statement or humorous anecdote. That's because the mother-in-law caricature has been a standard centerpiece of ridicule or comedy. The book of Ruth however, tells a different story. Ruth loved her mother-in-law, Naomi. Recently widowed, Ruth begged to stay with Naomi wherever she went, even though it would mean leaving her homeland, ending her plea with, "Thy people shall be my people, and thy God my God" (1:16). Naomi agreed, and Ruth traveled with her to Bethlehem. Not much is said about Naomi except that she loved and cared for Ruth. Obviously, Naomi's life was a powerful witness to the reality of God. Ruth was drawn to her—and to the God she worshipped. In the succeeding month, God led this young Moabite widow to a man named Boaz, whom she eventually married. As a result, she became the great-grandmother of David and an ancestor in the line of the Messiah. What a profound impact Naomi's life made!

The book of Ruth is also the story of God's grace in the midst of difficult circumstances. Ruth's story occurred during the time of Judges—a period of disobedience, idolatry and violence. Even in times of crisis and deepest despair, there are those who follow God and through whom God works. No matter how discouraging or antagonistic the world may seem, there are always people who follow God. He will use anyone who is open to him to achieve his purposes. Ruth was a Moabite, and Boaz was a descendant of Rahab, a former prostitute from Jericho. Nevertheless, their offspring continued the family line through which the Messiah came into our world.

—New Life Application Bible/
BMA's Messages 02/22/09

**NOTHING SHALL OUR MOUTH SPEAK
BUT THE BLESSING OF THE WORD
AND THE GLORY OF GOD.**



**THROUGH THE BIBLE
IN A YEAR**

CHAPTERS TO READ THIS WEEK:

FEBRUARY 22 NUMBERS 22-24
FEBRUARY 23 NUMBERS 25-27
FEBRUARY 24 NUMBERS 28-30
FEBRUARY 25 NUMBERS 31-33
FEBRUARY 26 NUMBERS 34-35
FEBRUARY 27 DEUT. 1-4
FEBRUARY 28 DEUT. 5-8

To memorize one (1) verse in every chapter, tokens shall be awarded to those who can recite all memory verses after every book.



