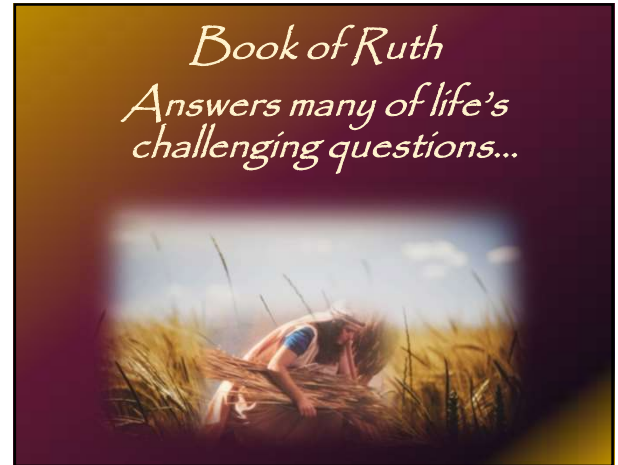
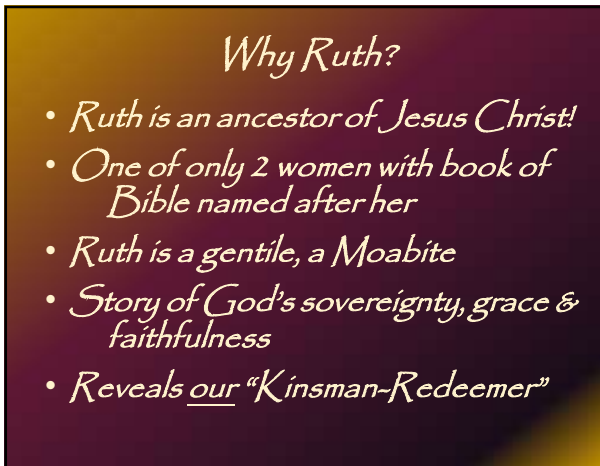




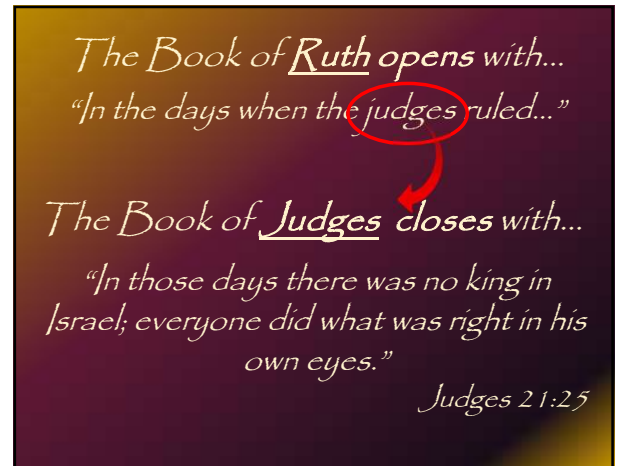
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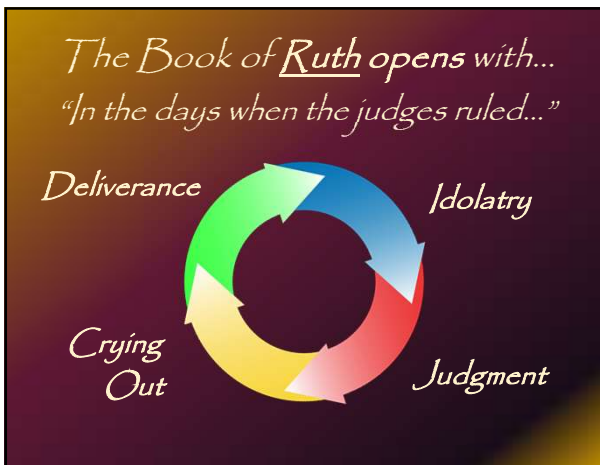
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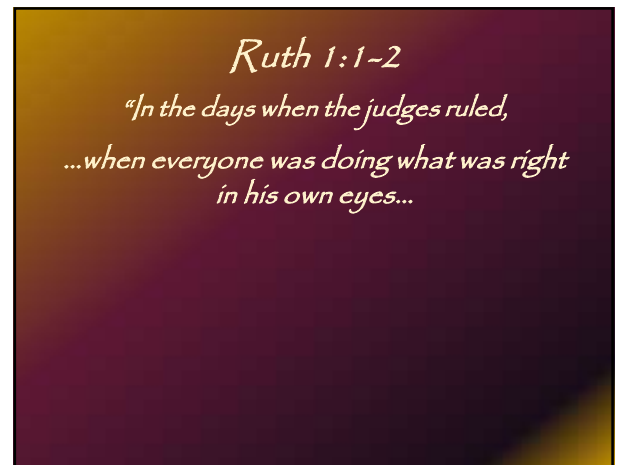
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4



5



6

Ruth 1:1-2

*"In the days when the judges ruled,
there was a famine in the land.*

7

"Beth-lehem"

בֵּית לֶחֶם
bread house

"House of Bread"

**No
Bread!**

8

Amidst God's "pop-quizzes"...

Only!
"This is a test!"

Pragmatism vs Faith

9

So... they leave Bethlehem of Israel



To go to Moab!

10

Ruth 1:3-7

"Naomi's husband Elimelech died, and she was left with her two sons. Her sons took Moabite women as their wives: one was named Orpah and the second was named Ruth. After they lived in Moab about 10 years, both Mahlon and Chilion also died, and Naomi was left without her two children and without her husband."

11

- *Decision to sojourn in a pagan land*
- *The place of plenty becomes a place of loss, death, emptiness*

Reminiscent of the Prodigal Son!



12

- *Decision to sojourn in a pagan land*
- *The place of plenty becomes a place of loss, death, emptiness*

*Bereft of her husband & 2 sons...
Unable to bear more children...
Still in need of food...*



*"I went away full, and the Lord has brought me back empty."
Ruth 1:21*

13

Amidst her loss, brokenness & desperation...

She Hears!

*"God has visited His people by providing food for them!"
Ruth 1:6*

*"I am the bread come down from heaven!"
John 6:35-38*

14

Ruth 1:3-7

"She arose & left the place where she had been living, accompanied by her two daughters-in-law, and traveled along the road leading back to the land of Judah."

15

Ruth 1:3-7

"She arose & left the place where she had been living, accompanied by her two daughters-in-law, and traveled along the road leading back to the land of Judah."

Orpah - Stiff-necked, from the idea of a fawn or gazelle

Ruth - Friendship

16

Ruth 1

"Turn back!"

3x's

17

Ruth 1

"Turn back!"

There is nothing for you where I am going...

God is against me!

18

Ruth 1

“Turn back!”

“Re-images” herself!

(Sees herself AS her pain, loss!)

Rejects her name gives herself a new one...

*“Do not call me Naomi (pleasant);
call me Mara (bitter),
for the Almighty has dealt very bitterly with me.”
Ruth 1:20*

19

Ruth 1

“Turn back!”

There is nothing for you where I am going...

Have I yet sons in my womb?

20

Ruth 1

“levirate marriage”

*Literally a “marriage with a husband’s
brother (brother-in-law)”*

*In ancient Israel the passing on of the family name and the
inheritance within a tribe were vitally important*

*A widow would marry a brother-in-law, and the first
son produced in that union was considered the legal
descendant of her dead husband.*

21

Ruth 1

“levirate marriage”

Deuteronomy 25:5-6

*⁵ If brothers are living together and one of
them dies without a son, his widow must
not marry outside the family. Her
husband’s brother shall take her and marry
her and fulfill the duty of a brother-in-law
to her. ⁶ The first son she bears shall carry
on the name of the dead brother so that his
name will not be blotted out from Israel.*

22

Ruth 1

“levirate marriage”

Peculiar people!

God’s gracious provision!

Concern for widows, orphans, marginalized...

Deuteronomy 25:5-6
*⁵ If brothers are living together and one of
them dies without a son, his widow must
not marry outside the family. Her
husband’s brother shall take her and marry
her and fulfill the duty of a brother-in-law
to her. ⁶ The first son she bears shall carry
on the name of the dead brother so that his
name will not be blotted out from Israel.*

23

Ruth 1

“Turn back!”

There is nothing for you where I am going...

No chance for another husband by me!

24

Ruth 1

“Turn back!”

There is nothing for you where I am going...

*“She has returned to her people and
back to her gods!”*

25

Ruth 1

“Turn back!”

There is nothing for you where I am going...

Plus...

*Who in Israel would want a...
“2nd-hand”
Moabite wife?*

26

Ruth 1

“Turn back!”

✓ *God is against me!*

✓ *There is nothing for you where I
am going!*

27

Ruth 1

“Turn back!”

3x's

Recall -

*Elijah's testing of Elisha
2 Kings 2*

28

Ruth 1:14

*“Then Orpah kissed her
mother-in-law goodbye...”*

29

Ruth 1:14

“But Ruth clung!”

- ✓ *cling or adhere*
- ✓ *to overtake or catch by pursuit*
- ✓ *abide fast, cleave (fast together)*
- ✓ *follow close (hard after)*
- ✓ *be joined (together)*

30

Psalm 63:8
"My soul clings to you!"

31

Ruth 1:16
"Stop urging me otherwise!"
3-fold commitment!
I am committed to...

- *You!*
- *Israel!*
- *Yahweh!*

Even in death!

Covenantal Love!

32

Ruth 3:11
"...for everyone in town knows you are
a virtuous woman!"

"a woman of noble character."

33



*It is Orpah...
not Naomi
 Who will travel alone!*

34

Ruth 1:19
Interestingly...
Those who knew her...
And did NOT leave...
Survived!

35

Ruth 1:22
"They came to Bethlehem at the
beginning of the barley harvest!"



36

Looking ahead - Ruth 2

What's significant about it being the barley harvest?

*What's interesting about the statement:
"...and she happened to come to the part of the field belonging to Boaz..." (vs 3)*

In what ways is the unnamed servant of 2:6-7 similar to the Holy Spirit?

How does Boaz's invitation in vs 8-9 compare to Jesus' invitation to us?

What similarities are there between 2:10-13 and our life as a child of God?