

“Do You Not See Ruth? Do You Not See the Lord?”

Ruth 1:1-22

June 28, 2020

I. Introduction to the Book of Ruth

A. The events of Ruth took place in the days of the Judges (Ruth 1:1):

1. A time of flagrant and national idolatry and immorality.
2. A time of tremendous social and political upheaval.

B. The book of Ruth is ultimately about the Lord:

1. His provision for His people in even the worst of times.
2. His mercy upon them when they wallow in doubt and fear.

II. Ruth 1:1-22

A. Elimelech and his sons were faithless.

1. That was likely the cause of their untimely deaths.
2. Their faithlessness left Naomi a childless widow in a foreign land.

B. Though Naomi suffered very real trials, she failed to see the Lord's ongoing provision.

1. The Lord was not her enemy; He'd given her the loyal and faithful Ruth.
2. She had not returned to Israel empty; she'd come back with Ruth, a far greater spiritual blessing than her husband and sons.
3. She did not yet have the faith to recognize the Lord was working for restoration already (Ruth 1:22).

C. We're often so like Naomi; but, thankfully, we serve the same providing, faithful, merciful, and triumphant Lord.

1 Cor. 2:6-9 - ⁶We do, however, speak a message of wisdom among the mature, but not the wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are coming to nothing. ⁷No, we speak of God's secret wisdom, a wisdom that has been hidden and that God destined for our glory before time began. ⁸None of the rulers of this age understood it, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. ⁹However, as it is written: “No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love him”—