

“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 - ⁶ We 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. ⁷ No, we speak of God’s secret wisdom, a wisdom that has been hidden and that God destined for our glory before time began. ⁸ None of the rulers of this age understood it, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. ⁹ However, 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”—