

A Tour Through the Divine Library
(Ruth)

I. General Introduction to Ruth

-Title: Hebrew: Ruth, the Moabitess, the wife of Mahlon (1:4; 4:10)

-Author/Date: one author (Samuel?); written sometime during David's lifetime, after his coronation (~1010 BC; 4:17, 22); describes events that occurred perhaps as much as 400 years earlier

-Themes/Purposes: God sovereign control of history; the virtues of faithful devotion to family, duty, and God; the supranational scope of God's redemptive plan; the ancestry of David and the Messianic line

II. General Overview of Ruth

-Crisis and Need (ch. 1); Hope and Expectation (ch. 2); Plea and Appeal (ch. 3); Deliverance and Blessing (ch. 4)

III. Christ in Ruth

-In the Closing Genealogy (4:18-22 with Matt. 1:3b-6a)

-In Boaz: blood relative (Deut. 25; Heb. 2:17); able to redeem (Ruth 2:1; 1 Pet. 1:18, 19); willing to redeem (Ruth 3:13; John 10:18); willing to marry (Ruth 4:9, 10; Rev. 21:9)

IV. Prominent Themes and Practical Lessons in Ruth

1) The Sovereignty and Providence of God (1:1, 6; 2:3; 4:13)

2) God's Eternal Plan of Redemption Through Christ (2 Sam. 7:12, 13; Ps. 2:8; Is. 53: 10, 11; Dan. 7:13, 14; Eph. 1:7; 2 Tim. 1:9)

3) The Multi-Ethnic Composition of the People of God (Rom. 9:22-24; 11:1-36; Eph. 2:11-22; 3:4-6; Rev. 5:9)

4) The Meaning of True Conversion (1:15, 16; 1 Thess. 1:9)

5) The Vital Connection Between the Details of our Lives and God's Eternal Purpose