

# RUTH 1

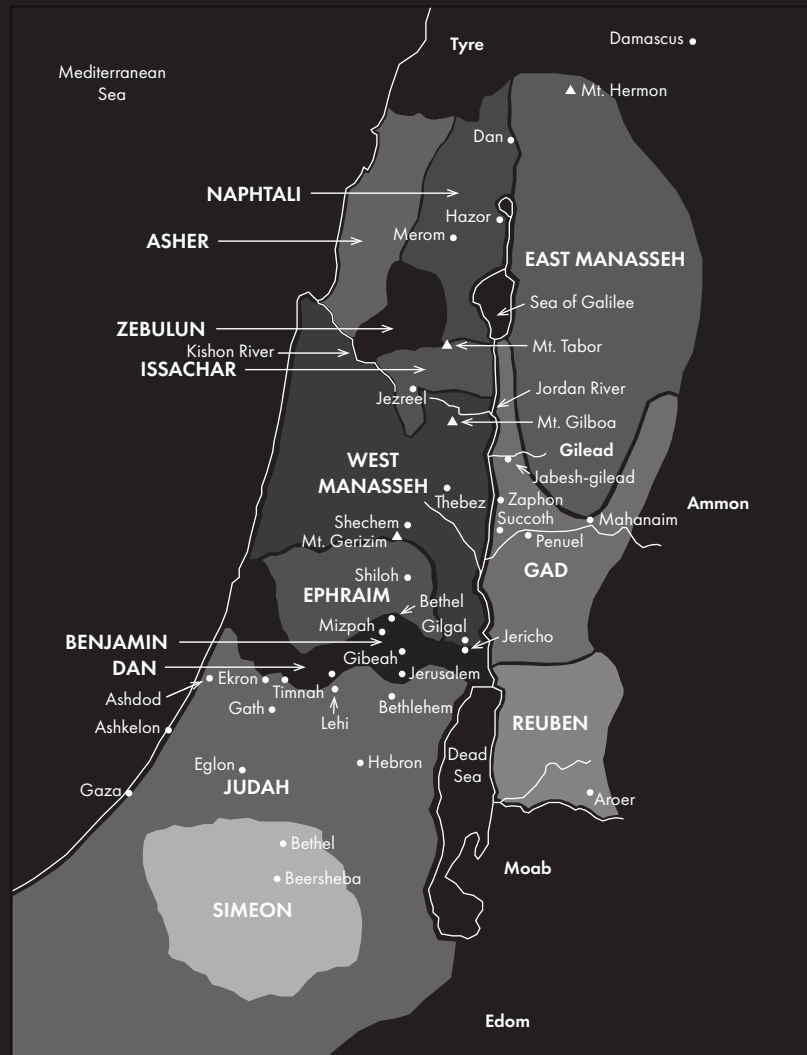
# NAO RUTH BOAZ

## WHEN

- The events recorded in the book of Ruth happened during the period of the Judges (1:1).
- Most scholars place the period of the Judges between 1450 B.C. and 1000 B.C.
- Ruth was the great-grandmother of King David. David's birth is dated to approximately 1040 B.C., which would place Ruth's story around 1100 B.C.

## WHERE

- Elimelech was originally from Bethlehem, but he moved his family to the country of Moab due to a famine.
- Naomi and Ruth returned to Bethlehem after the famine.



## CHARACTERS

- **Elimelech** – A man from the tribe of Benjamin who moved his family to Moab.
- **Naomi** – The wife of Elimelech.
- **Mahlon and Chilion** – The sons of Elimelech and Naomi.
- **Ruth and Orpah** – Moabite women who married Naomi's sons.

## OUTLINE

- THE FAMINE AND THE DEATH OF NAOMI'S FAMILY (1:1-5):
  - + During the days of the judges, a famine struck the land of the Israelites.
  - + To escape the food shortage, Elimelech, a man from Bethlehem, took his wife and two sons to the land of Moab.
  - + Unfortunately, Elimelech died and left Naomi a widow.
  - + Sadder still, was the death of her two sons some years later.
  - + Naomi was alone in Moab, except for her two Moabite daughters-in-law, Orpah and Ruth.
- RUTH'S LOYALTY TO NAOMI (1:6-18):
  - + Naomi resolved to return to Bethlehem because she heard God blessed the land with food.
  - + She told Orpah and Ruth to return to their mother's houses in Moab and find new husbands.
  - + Orpah kissed her mother-in-law and went on her way, but Ruth refused to leave Naomi.
  - + Ruth said, "Do not urge me to leave you or to return from following you. For where you go I will go, and where you lodge I will lodge. Your people shall be my people, and your God my God. Where you die I will die, and there will I be buried. May the Lord do so to me and more also if anything but death parts me from you" (1:16-17).
  - + When Naomi realized her daughter-in-law could not be persuaded otherwise, she permitted her to accompany her back to Bethlehem.
- NAOMI AND RUTH IN BETHLEHEM (1:19-22):
  - + When Naomi returned to Bethlehem, the people of the town were excited to see her.
  - + She told them not to call her Naomi but to call her "Mara", because God had "dealt very bitterly" with her.
  - + Naomi and Ruth arrived in Bethlehem at the beginning of barley harvest.

## APPLICATION

- Faithful friendship is one of the most beautiful blessings from God.
- Spend some time thanking God for the friends and relatives who have blessed your life, especially when circumstances weren't easy.
- Praise God for people who never leave us!

OTHN  
EHUD  
SHAN  
DEBO  
GIDEC  
ABIM  
TOLA  
JAIR  
JEPHT  
IBZAN  
ELON  
ABDC  
SAMS  
ELI  
SAMU