

# The Book of Ruth

## Introduction to Chapter 4

### **Author and Date**

What do we know about the origins of the Book of Ruth?

What are the promotional and polemical opinions amongst scholars?

### **Title**

What is unique about the Book of Ruth?

### **Structure**

What are the four localities in the book that provide a backdrop for most of the story?

### **Place in the Canon**

Where does the book of Ruth find its place in the Old Testament canon?

### **Literary Genre**

What are the two types of genre that scholars ascribe to the book of Ruth?

### **Themes and Characteristics**

How do the themes of the book of Ruth contrast with the moral and spiritual gloom that shrouds the period of the Judges?

### **Christian Perspective**

What is the Christian perspective on the book of Ruth?

(Read 1:1-5) Who are the Judges? Where are Bethlehem and Moab located? (Note 1:1)

Who is Elimelech, Naomi, Orpah, Ruth, Mahlon and Chilion? (Note 1:2, Note 1:4, Note 1:5)

(Read 1:6-22) What are the consequences of Ruth's pledge of lifelong loyalty to Naomi? (Note 1:16-17)

(Read 2:1) Who is Boaz? (Note 2:1)

(Read 2:2-7) What are some of the qualities of Boaz and Ruth? (Note 2:4, Note 2:7)

(Read 2:8-16) Does Boaz go beyond the demands of the Mosaic Law? (Note 2:8-16)

Are blessings given by God to all people both Israelite and Gentile? (Note 2:12)

(Read 2:17-23) What is a kinsman redeemer? (Note 2:20)

(Read 3:1-5) Is Ruth making it known that she is available? (Note 3:3, Note 3:4)

(Read 3:6-9) What is the symbolism of “spreading your garment”? (Note 3:9)

(Read 3:10-14) What is the legal obstacle to the union of Boaz and Ruth? (Note 3:12)

(Read 4:1-6) Why would Ruth be considered as the widow of the dead? (Note 4:5)

Why does the next of kin decline the offer? (Note 4:6)

(Read 4:7-12) What is the meaning of removing the sandal? (Note 4:7)

Does Boaz assume two different responsibilities? (Note 4:9-10)

Why do the people wish Ruth to become like Rachel and Leah? (Note 4:11)

How does the blessing of the house of Perez come to fulfillment in the birth of Obed? (Note 4:12)

(Read 4:13-17) Is the pregnancy of Ruth miraculous? (Note 4:13)

Who is Obed? (Note 4:17)

(Read 4:18-22) What is the genealogy of Judah? (Note 4:18-22)