

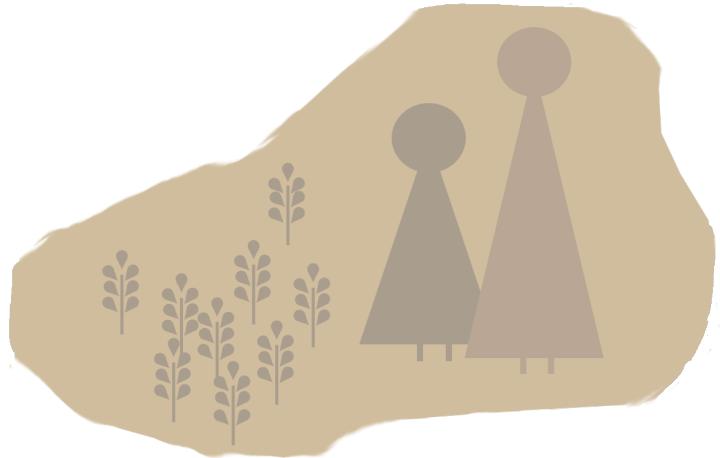
RUTH (pt1)

A Story of Redemption Study Guide

Ruth opens by providing several important details setting God's story of redemption.

RUTH 1:1-2 (NASB)

“Now it came about in the days when the judges governed, that there was a famine in the land. And a certain man of Bethlehem in Judah went to sojourn in the land of Moab with his wife and his two sons. The name of the man was Elimelech, and the name of his wife, Naomi; and the names of his two sons were Mahlon and Chilion, Ephrathites of Bethlehem in Judah. Now they entered the land of Moab and remained there.”



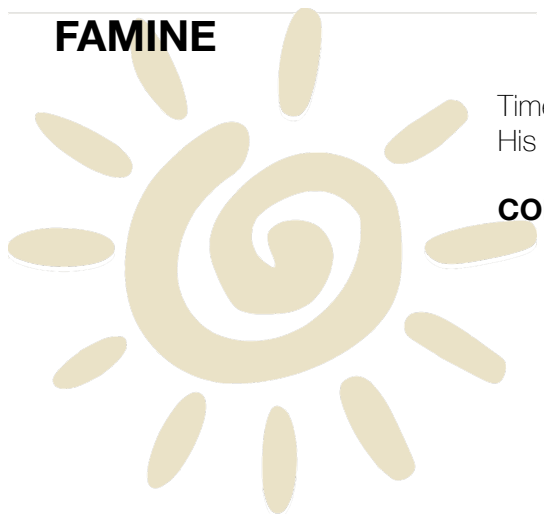
The story begins in the days of the judges, a difficult and unfaithful time for Israel

THE TIME OF THE JUDGES

JUDGES 21:25 (NASB)

“In those days there was no king in Israel; everyone did what was right in his own eyes.”

FAMINE



Times of famine are often indications of God's judgment against His people.

COMPARE the following verses:

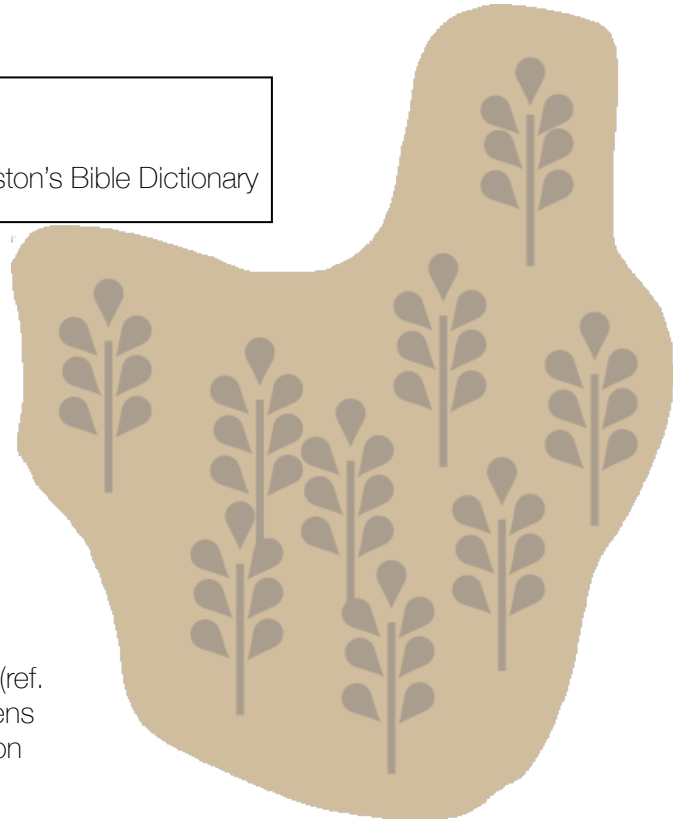
LEVITICUS 26:3-4

DEUTERONOMY 28:20-24

BETHLEHEM

Bethlehem—house of bread

Easton's Bible Dictionary



MOAB

Moab was an ancient enemy of Israel (ref. Judges 3:12-31; 2 Kings 3). Ruth opens setting up the reader for the devastation experienced in the book of Ruth.

What events happen when Elimelech moves his family to Moab?

What is Naomi left with?

What can we learn from Elimelech's decision to move his family?