

From Turbulence to Rest

5– 11 DEC 2017

RU 1-4, 1 SA 1-16, PS 23

Week 12 - 38 Weeks to Go

The Book of Ruth takes place in the latter part of the Judges period. It is a story of love, devotion and redemption. As Boaz redeemed Naomi, great-grandson David will deliver Israel and Jesus will redeem us all. The book of 1 Samuel describes the transition of leadership in Israel from judges to kings – a transition from theocracy to God-appointed monarchy. With the turmoil under the rule of the Judges, Israel needs a prophet and God gives them Samuel. When Samuel grows old, the people demand a king and God gives them Saul. Saul does not obey God, so God gives them David. The God of Israel continues to be the true King of Israel.

Weekly Reading Plan

Day 1: RU 1:1 – 4:12
Day 2: RU 4:13-22
Day 3: 1 SA 1:1 – 6:21
Day 4: 1 SA 7:1 – 17
Day 5: 1 SA 8:1-22
Day 6: 1 SA 9:1 – 12:25
Day 7: 1 SA 13:1-16:23; PS 23

Outline

Ruth and Boaz [Day 1 and 2]
God raises up Samuel as prophet and judge [Day 3]
Samuel’s Public Ministry [Day 4]
Israel demands a king: Saul [Day 5]
Saul and David [Day 6]
Saul Rejected as King [Day 7]

Key Characters

Ruth	Naomi
Boaz	Eli
Hannah	Samson
Samuel	Saul
Jonathan	David

Key Locations

Moab
Bethlehem
Ramah
Jerusalem (Jebus)
Gibeah
Gilgal
Shiloh

Key Terms

Kinsman Redeemer
Gleaning
Kingship

Key Verses

“Don’t urge me to leave you or to turn back from you. Where you go I will go, and where you stay I will stay. Your people will be my people and your God my God.” [RU 1:16]

Then the women said to Naomi, “Blessed is the Lord who has not left you without a redeemer today, and may his name become famous in Israel [RU 4:14]

Only fear the Lord and serve Him in truth with all your heart, for consider what great things He has done for you. But if you still do wickedly, both you and your king will be swept away. [1 SA 12:24-25]

“The Lord does not look at the things man looks at. Man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.” [1 SA 16:7]

EPOCH 4
(1200 – 930 BC)

Chapter Summaries (from @biblesummary)

Ru1: Naomi, an Ephraimite, lived in Moab. Her husband and two sons died so she returned to Bethlehem with her daughter-in-law, Ruth.

Ru2: Naomi had a rich relative named Boaz. Ruth went to glean in his fields. Boaz gave her food and told his men to leave grain for her.

Ru3: Naomi told Ruth to go and sleep at Boaz's feet. When Boaz awoke, Ruth said, "You are my kinsman." Boaz said that he would marry her.

Ru4: Boaz settled the inheritance with another kinsman and married Ruth. Ruth bore a son, Obed. Obed was father of Jesse, father of David.

1Sa1: Hannah had no children. She cried out to the LORD, "Remember your servant." She bore a son, Samuel, and took him to Eli the priest.

1Sa2: Hannah prayed, "The LORD humbles and lifts up." Eli's sons did evil but Samuel served the LORD. A prophet condemned the house of Eli.

1Sa3: The LORD called Samuel. Eli told Samuel to answer, "Speak, LORD." The LORD told Samuel that he was about to judge the house of Eli.

1Sa4: The Israelites were defeated by the Philistines and Eli's sons were killed. When Eli heard that the ark had been captured, he died.

1Sa5: The Philistines put the ark in their temple. Their god fell on his face before it. The city became cursed so they sent the ark away.

1Sa6: The Philistines sent the ark away with guilt offerings. The people of Beth Shemesh found it and rejoiced but some were struck down.

1Sa7: The ark was taken to Kiriath-jearim. The Philistines attacked Israel. Samuel cried out to the LORD and the Israelites defeated them.

1Sa8: The elders of Israel asked Samuel to appoint a king. Samuel warned them what it would mean. The LORD told Samuel to give them a king.

1Sa9: Saul went looking for his father's donkeys. The LORD told Samuel to anoint him ruler of Israel. Samuel invited Saul to eat with him.

Chapter Summaries (from @biblesummary)

1Sa10: Samuel anointed Saul and gave him signs. The Spirit of God came upon Saul and he prophesied. Saul was chosen to rule the Israelites.

1Sa11: The Ammonites attacked Jabesh-gilead. Saul gathered the Israelites and defeated the Ammonites. The people made Saul king at Gilgal.

1Sa12: Samuel said, "The LORD brought your fathers out of Egypt. Now he has given you the king you asked for. Fear the LORD and serve him."

1Sa13: The Philistines encamped at Michmash. Saul made offerings to the LORD by himself. Samuel told Saul that his kingdom would not last.

1Sa14: Saul's son Jonathan went against the Philistines and routed them. Saul made an oath that no one should eat but Jonathan was spared.

1Sa15: The LORD told Saul to destroy Amalek but Saul spared King Agag. Samuel told Saul that the LORD had rejected him. Samuel killed Agag.

1Sa16: The LORD sent Samuel to anoint Jesse's son David as king. The Spirit came upon David. Saul sent for David to play the harp for him.

Ps23: The LORD is my shepherd. He leads me in paths of righteousness. I will fear no evil. I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

Big Ideas in RUTH

God's family is built on faith, not nationality; Ruth, a non-Israelite from Moab, is an ancestor of Jesus

God's provision often comes through the love and faithfulness of his obedient servants

Boaz's redemption of Ruth foreshadows Christ's redemption of his people



Source: The NIV Quickview Bible - www.thequickviewbible.com

Big Ideas in 1 SAMUEL

God reigns as King, regardless of Israel's human leaders

God is pleased by obedience, not tradition

God establishes and removes kings

People look at appearance, God sees the heart



Source: The NIV Quickview Bible - www.thequickviewbible.com

CURIOUS FACT: GOD IS HARDLY MENTIONED

NAOMI RUTH BOAZ
THE WIDOW THE NABILE THE STRANGER

INTERPLAY OF GOD'S PURPOSE AND HUMAN DECISIONS

PRICE BY: SOLENNITY LOYALTY

4

3

2

1

“IN THE DAY THE JUDGES RULED”

TRAGEDY & DEATH

MOAB = THE LAND OF =
CALL ME MARRA (BITTER)

WHERE YOU GO I WILL GO, YOUR PEOPLE WILL BE MY PEOPLE, AND YOUR GOD WILL BE MY GOD.

BOAZ =
• MAN OF NOBLE CHARACTER (2B)
• SHOWS GENEROSITY (SEE DISSEMINATED 2A)
• PRAYS THAT GOD WILL BLESS HER

MY GOD REWARD YOU

BOAZ KINSMAN REDEEMER!
• CULTURAL PRACTICE
• MARRIES THE WIDOW
• PROTECTS FAMILY LINE

BOAZ =
• MAN OF NOBLE CHARACTER (2B)
• SHOWS GENEROSITY (SEE DISSEMINATED 2A)
• PRAYS THAT GOD WILL BLESS HER

GET PRESS'D UP

WILL YOU REDEEM OUR FAMILY... AND MARRY ME??

HUMAN OF NOBLE CHARACTER... YES

HE SAID YES!!!

JOY & BIRTH

DAVID

GENEALOGY
PRESERVATION
EXAL
AMMADAS
SALMON
JESSE

LOYALTY

RU

created by the Bible Project

2 SAMUEL

RECAP

IN THE PREVIOUS LESSON

- ISRAEL'S KINGDOM
- PHILISTINES VS ISRAEL
- ISRAEL'S KINGDOM
- ISRAEL'S KINGDOM

CHARACTER STUDIES

DAVID KNOWS

- IN THE HEART OF THE MATTER
- HE KNOWS HIS OWN MIND
- HE KNOWS HIS OWN HEART
- HE KNOWS HIS OWN FUTURE

SAUL

- HE KNOWS HIS OWN MIND
- HE KNOWS HIS OWN HEART
- HE KNOWS HIS OWN FUTURE

SAMUEL

- HE KNOWS HIS OWN MIND
- HE KNOWS HIS OWN HEART
- HE KNOWS HIS OWN FUTURE

1-7

HANNAH'S SONG

1-7

PHILISTINES VS ISRAEL

1-7

ISRAEL'S KINGDOM

8-31

DAVID RISES TO POWER

8-31

DAVID RISES TO POWER

8-31

1-20

DAVID'S LAMENT FOR SAUL

1-20

DAVID'S LAMENT FOR SAUL

1-20

21-24

FAILURE OF SAUL

21-24

FAILURE OF SAUL

21-24

25-31

DAVID'S MIGHTY MEN

25-31

DAVID'S MIGHTY MEN

25-31

1-24

DAVID'S POETIC MEMOIRS

1-24

DAVID'S POETIC MEMOIRS

1-24

25-31

DAVID'S MIGHTY MEN

25-31

DAVID'S MIGHTY MEN

25-31

1-24

FAILURE OF SAUL

1-24

FAILURE OF SAUL

1-24

25-31

DAVID'S MIGHTY MEN

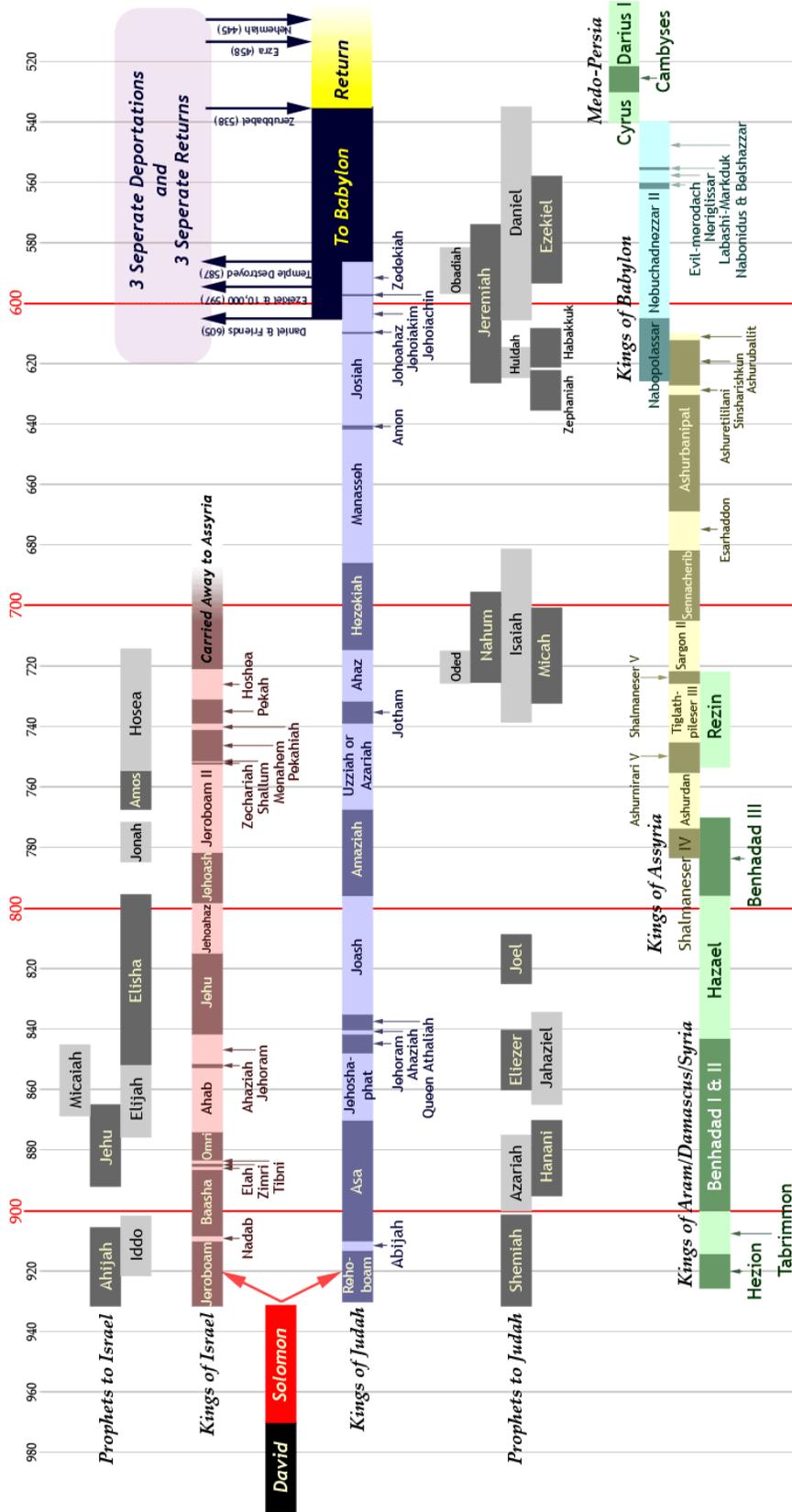
25-31

DAVID'S MIGHTY MEN

25-31

created by the Bible Project

Timeline for 1 & 2 Samuel, 1 & 2 Kings, 1 & 2 Chronicles & Associated Prophets



1. The bottom line shows the rise and fall of the dominant world powers with which Israel -- whether united or divided -- contended.
2. Beginning with Israel united as a single nation under David and Solomon, the kingdom is divided and ruled by separate lines of kings. "Israel" from this point on refers to the northern half which is ruled by a succession of kings not of David's lineage who never return to the Lord and are taken into captivity by the Assyrians. The southern half is referred to as "Judah" although people from every tribe come to live within its borders. It is ruled by direct descendants of David, some of which repent and lead the people back to God. It will be carried away into captivity to Babylon, which in turn is conquered by the Medo-Persians, from whom the return to the land of Israel is effected.
3. To better understand the context of God's Word through the prophets, read the corresponding accounts of the kings reigning during their ministry and to which of the two kingdoms they mainly ministered to.

The following resources were used to develop this chart:
 "New Bible Dictionary - 2nd Edition" edited by D.R.W. Wood (Inter-Varsity Press, Donners Grove, Illinois)
 "Nelson's New Illustrated Bible Dictionary" edited by R.F. Youngblood (Thomas Nelson Publishers, Nashville)
 "New Bible Atlas" edited by Bimson, Kane, Paterson, Wiseman and Wood (Inter-Varsity Press, Downers Grove, Illinois)
 "The New Inductive Study Bible" (Harvest House Publishers, Eugene, Oregon)

Ruth: A God Worshipper from Moab
[The Book of Ruth]

The story of Ruth takes place during the period of the judges.

During a time of famine (but relative calm) in Israel, a God-worshipping family from Bethlehem went to live for awhile in the idol worshipping country of Moab. While there, both sons married Moabite women (Orpah and Ruth). Shortly after, the father and both sons died.

Naomi (the mother), having heard that conditions were now better in Bethlehem, decided to return to her own people. She encouraged Orpah and Ruth to return to their Moabite families.

Ruth loyally insisted upon staying with Naomi and worshipping Naomi's God. They traveled to Bethlehem and were very poor.

God led them to the fields of Naomi's close relative, Boaz. Boaz fell in love with Ruth, married her and they had a son named Obed. Obed fathered Jesse and Jesse fathered David. (Ruth was David's great grandmother. Ruth and David were both ancestors to Jesus who was born 1000 years after David.

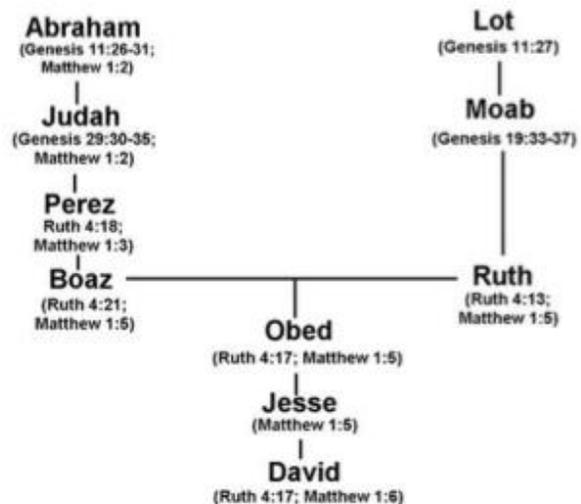
God not only accepted a despised Moabite into his family, but used her to produce Israel's greatest king (King David) and His own precious Son (Jesus).

To anyone who thought that God only loved the Israelites, this story sets the record straight.

Lieber, D. (1994). Bible 101 getting the big picture. From a class presented at Solana Beach Presbyterian Church in 1994.



Family Tree of Ruth



Israel's 1st King — King Saul

[1 Samuel 8-15]

During the period of the Judges, the Israelites clamored for an earthly king and army to protect them from the Philistines.

God told Samuel to anoint Saul as Israel's first earthly king.

When the Philistines invaded, King Saul disobeyed God by performing the pre-battle animal sacrifice that only a priest like Samuel was authorized to perform.

King Saul and his army drove back the Philistines, then the Moabites, Ammonites, Edomites and Amalekites. But once again, Saul disobeyed God's specific orders and took Amalekite prisoners when he should have killed them all.

Because of Saul's persistent disobedience, God rejected Saul as King of Israel and promised to eventually give his kingdom to a better man (and not to one of Saul's sons).

Near the end of Saul's life Saul ordered 85 priests to be murdered and consulted a medium to try to speak to the dead.



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Notes for Discussion

What did I learn about God?

What did I learn about human nature?

How does what I read apply to my life and my relationship with God?

Insights about the time and/or customs?

Other thoughts

What did I learn about God?

- Both Ruth (RU 16-17) and Naomi (RU 20-21) confess God's sovereign control of events, each in her own way. What truth does each convey of God? Of themselves? Of their success in coping with stress? Which confession do you think would most startle the original readers? Why?
- How does Jesus Christ, like Boaz, function as a "kinsman-redeemer" for us?
- Observing Hannah's prayer (1 SA 2:1-10), which was likely sung as a hymn of praise by her and later by the nation of Israel, what do you learn of the God whom she worships? How does this song fit the nation of Israel as well as Hannah alone?
- Why do you think Samuel enjoyed God's favor? His youth and innocence? The good parenting he received? He chose to honor the Lord? He had a special calling and relationship with God? His mother prayed for him?

What did I learn about human nature?

- What do you think Boaz's motives were in seeking to be the kinsman-redeemer? Love for Ruth? Duty? Real estate expansion? Honor? Other?
- In the end, the whole community welcomes Ruth. What do you think brought her from being an outsider to being accepted?
- Why do the Israelites want a king? Why are they willing to ignore the warning about a king?
- Why do sheep (PS 23) represent believers so well? What kinds of duties did shepherds provide in Biblical times? How do those duties correspond with those performed by pastors?

What did I learn about my life/relationship with God?

- Where in your life now are you inclined to trust in your own strength instead of God's? What will you do to learn to trust in God's strength?
- What is one of the best things your parents did in raising you? What do you feel is the most important thing you can do to raise a child right?
- How do you hear the voice of the Lord? Are your prayers more like, "Speak Lord, for your servant is listening" or "Listen Lord for your servant is speaking"?
- Psalm 23 talks about living life with God. However, in our broken world there is much to fear. As a child, how were you taught to deal with fear or stress? How did your parents or caregivers model this for you?

Shared Time/Culture Insights

- What ethnic enmity complicates prospects for Naomi's daughters-in-law? Given the social problems facing these widows, why does Naomi tell Ruth and Orpah to return to their families?