

**Ruth 1:1 ff**

In the days when the judges ruled, there was a famine in the land. So a man from Bethlehem in Judah, together with his wife and two sons, went to live for a while in the country of Moab. <sup>2</sup>The man's name was Elimelek, his wife's name was Naomi, and the names of his two sons were Mahlon and Kilion. They were Ephrathites from Bethlehem, Judah. And they went to Moab and lived there.

<sup>3</sup>Now Elimelek, Naomi's husband, died, and she was left with her two sons. <sup>4</sup>They married Moabite women, one named Orpah and the other Ruth. After they had lived there about ten years, <sup>5</sup>both Mahlon and Kilion also died, and Naomi was left without her two sons and her husband.

<sup>6</sup>When Naomi heard in Moab that the LORD had come to the aid of his people by providing food for them, she and her daughters-in-law prepared to return home from there.

**Ruth 4: 16-22**

16 And Naomi took the child, and laid it in her bosom, and became nurse to it. 17 And the women her neighbors gave it a name, saying, A son is born to Naomi; and they called his name Obed: he is the father of Jesse, the father of David.

18 Now these are the generations of Pharez: Pharez begat Hezron, 19 And Hezron begat Ram, and Ram begat Amminadab, 20 And Amminadab begat Nahshon, and Nahshon begat Salmon, 21 And Salmon begat Boaz, and Boaz begat Obed, 22 And Obed begat Jesse, and Jesse begat David.

**Deuteronomy 23: 3-6**

<sup>3</sup>No Ammonite or Moabite or any of their descendants may enter the assembly of the LORD, not even in the tenth generation. <sup>4</sup>For they did not come to meet you with bread and water on your way when you came out of Egypt, and they hired Balaam son of Beor from Pethor in Aram Naharaim<sup>[b]</sup> to pronounce a curse on you. <sup>5</sup>However, the LORD your God would not listen to Balaam but turned the curse into a blessing for you, because the LORD your God loves you. <sup>6</sup>Do not seek a treaty of friendship with them as long as you live. (cf genealogy in Genesis 19:30-38)

**Genesis 38**

At that time, Judah left his brothers and went down to stay with a man of Adullam named Hirah. <sup>2</sup>There Judah met the daughter of a Canaanite man named Shua. He married her and made love to her; <sup>3</sup>she became pregnant and gave birth to a son, who was named Er. <sup>4</sup>She conceived again and gave birth to a son and named him Onan. <sup>5</sup>She gave birth to still another son and named him Shelah. It was at Kezib that she gave birth to him.

<sup>6</sup>Judah got a wife for Er, his firstborn, and her name was Tamar. <sup>7</sup>But Er, Judah's firstborn, was wicked in the LORD's sight; so the LORD put him to death.

<sup>8</sup> Then Judah said to Onan, "Sleep with your brother's wife and fulfill your duty to her as a brother-in-law to raise up offspring for your brother." <sup>9</sup> But Onan knew that the child would not be his; so whenever he slept with his brother's wife, he spilled his semen on the ground to keep from providing offspring for his brother. <sup>10</sup> What he did was wicked in the LORD's sight; so the LORD put him to death also.

<sup>11</sup> Judah then said to his daughter-in-law Tamar, "Live as a widow in your father's household until my son Shelah grows up." For he thought, "He may die too, just like his brothers." So Tamar went to live in her father's household.

<sup>12</sup> After a long time Judah's wife, the daughter of Shua, died. When Judah had recovered from his grief, he went up to Timnah, to the men who were shearing his sheep, and his friend Hirah the Adullamite went with him.

<sup>13</sup> When Tamar was told, "Your father-in-law is on his way to Timnah to shear his sheep," <sup>14</sup> she took off her widow's clothes, covered herself with a veil to disguise herself, and then sat down at the entrance to Enaim, which is on the road to Timnah. For she saw that, though Shelah had now grown up, she had not been given to him as his wife.

<sup>15</sup> When Judah saw her, he thought she was a prostitute, for she had covered her face. <sup>16</sup> Not realizing that she was his daughter-in-law, he went over to her by the roadside and said, "Come now, let me sleep with you." "And what will you give me to sleep with you?" she asked. <sup>17</sup> "I'll send you a young goat from my flock," he said. "Will you give me something as a pledge until you send it?" she asked.

<sup>18</sup> He said, "What pledge should I give you?" "Your seal and its cord, and the staff in your hand," she answered. So he gave them to her and slept with her, and she became pregnant by him. <sup>19</sup> After she left, she took off her veil and put on her widow's clothes again.

<sup>20</sup> Meanwhile Judah sent the young goat by his friend the Adullamite in order to get his pledge back from the woman, but he did not find her. <sup>21</sup> He asked the men who lived there, "Where is the shrine prostitute who was beside the road at Enaim?" "There hasn't been any shrine prostitute here," they said. <sup>22</sup> So he went back to Judah and said, "I didn't find her. Besides, the men who lived there said, 'There hasn't been any shrine prostitute here.'" <sup>23</sup> Then Judah said, "Let her keep what she has, or we will become a laughingstock. After all, I did send her this young goat, but you didn't find her."

<sup>24</sup> About three months later Judah was told, "Your daughter-in-law Tamar is guilty of prostitution, and as a result she is now pregnant." Judah said, "Bring her out and have her burned to death!"

<sup>25</sup> As she was being brought out, she sent a message to her father-in-law. "I am pregnant by the man who owns these," she said. Adding, "See if you recognize whose seal and cord and staff these are."

<sup>26</sup> Judah recognized them and said, "She is more righteous than I, since I wouldn't give her to my son Shelah." And he did not sleep with her again.

<sup>27</sup> When the time came for her to give birth, there were twin boys in her womb. <sup>28</sup> As she was giving birth, one of them put out his hand; so the midwife took a scarlet thread and tied it on his wrist and said, "This one came out first." <sup>29</sup> But when he drew back his hand, his brother came out, and she said, "So this is how you have broken out!" And he was named Perez. <sup>30</sup> Then his brother, who had the scarlet thread on his wrist, came out. And he was named Zerah.

## Number 25

**25** While Israel was staying at Shittim, the people began to have sexual relations with the women of Moab. <sup>2</sup>They invited the people to the sacrifices of their gods, and the people ate and bowed down to their gods. <sup>3</sup>Thus Israel yoked itself to Baal Peor, and the LORD's anger was kindled against Israel. <sup>4</sup>The LORD said to Moses, "Take all the chiefs of the people, and impale them in the sun before the LORD, in order that the fierce anger of the LORD may turn away from Israel." <sup>5</sup>And Moses said to the judges of Israel, "Each of you shall kill any of your people who have yoked themselves to Baal Peor."

<sup>6</sup>Just then one of the Israelites brought a Midianite woman into his family, in the sight of Moses and in the sight of the whole congregation of the Israelites, while they were weeping at the entrance of the tent of meeting. <sup>7</sup>When Phinehas son of Eleazar, son of Aaron the priest, saw it, he got up and left the congregation. Taking a spear in his hand, <sup>8</sup>he went after the Israelite man into the tent, and pierced the two of them, the Israelite and the woman, through the belly. So the plague was stopped among the people of Israel. <sup>9</sup>Nevertheless those that died by the plague were 24,000.

<sup>10</sup>The LORD spoke to Moses, saying: <sup>11</sup>"Phinehas son of Eleazar, son of Aaron the priest, has turned back my wrath from the Israelites by manifesting such zeal among them on my behalf that in my jealousy I did not consume the Israelites. <sup>12</sup>Therefore say, 'I hereby grant him my covenant of peace. <sup>13</sup>It shall be for him and for his descendants after him a covenant of perpetual priesthood, because he was zealous for his God, and made atonement for the Israelites.'"

<sup>14</sup>The name of the slain Israelite man, who was killed with the Midianite woman, was Zimri son of Salu, head of an ancestral house belonging to the Simeonites. <sup>15</sup>The name of the Midianite woman who was killed was Cozbi daughter of Zur, who was the head of a clan, an ancestral house in Midian.

<sup>16</sup>The LORD said to Moses, <sup>17</sup>"Harass the Midianites, and defeat them; <sup>18</sup>for they have harassed you by the trickery with which they deceived you in the affair of Peor, and in the affair of Cozbi, the daughter of a leader of Midian, their sister; she was killed on the day of the plague that resulted from Peor."

### **Exodus 2:11-21**

11 One day, after Moses had grown up, he went out to his people and saw their forced labor. He saw an Egyptian beating a Hebrew, one of his kinsfolk. 12 He looked this way and that and seeing no one, he killed the Egyptian and hid him in the sand. 13 When he went out the next day, he saw two Hebrews fighting; and he said to the one who was in the wrong, "Why do you strike your fellow Hebrew?" 14 He answered, "Who made you a ruler and judge over us? Do you mean to kill me as you killed the Egyptian?" Then Moses was afraid and thought, "Surely the thing is known." 15 When Pharaoh heard of it, he sought to kill Moses.

But Moses fled from Pharaoh. He came to the land of Midian and sat by a well. 16 The priest of Midian had seven daughters. They came to draw water and filled the troughs to water their father's flock. 17 But some shepherds came and drove them away. Moses got up and came to their defense and watered their flock. 18 When they returned to their father Reuel, he said, "How is it that you have come back so soon today?" 19 They said, "An Egyptian helped us against the shepherds; he even drew water for us and watered the flock." 20 He said to his daughters, "Where is he? Why did you leave the man? Invite him to break bread." 21 Moses agreed to stay with the man, and he gave Moses his daughter Zipporah in marriage.

### **Exodus 4: 24-26**

24 At a lodging place on the way the Lord met him and sought to kill him. 25 Then Zipporah took a flint and cut off her son's foreskin, and touched Moses' feet with it, and said, "Surely you are a bridegroom of blood to me!" 26 So he let him alone. Then it was that she said, "You are a bridegroom of blood," because of the circumcision.