



Ruth

Two widows named Naomi and Ruth, lose everything, but trust in the God of Israel, much like a female Book of Job, which leads to a new life, and starts the lineage of the future King David.

Author: Traditionally Samuel

In Ruth – Jesus is our Kinsman-Redeemer

Ruth 1:17 "May the LORD deal with me, be it ever so severely, if anything but death separates you and me."

TEACHER: 4 CHAPTERS

The Book of Ruth is read in synagogues on the day of Pentecost. The Jewish Feast known as "The Feast of Weeks." The feast day celebrating the Spring Harvest. The book of Ruth shows us that God is the God of Gentiles as well as the Jews, if we choose to love the God of Abraham Isaac and Jacob. Because she chose God to be her Lord, God chose her to be the Grandmother of King David, and ultimately, ancestor to Our Lord Jesus Christ.

This truth is repeated in Matthew's account of the lineage of Jesus. Only 4 chapters long. This book occurs somewhere during the period in history covered by our previous book, Judges.



STUDENT:

CH. 1

¹⁻² Long ago, in the days before Israel had a king, there was a famine in the land. So a man named Elimelech, who belonged to the clan of Ephrath and who lived in Bethlehem in Judah, went with his wife Naomi and their two sons Mahlon and Chilion to live for a while in the country of Moab. While they were living there, ³ Elimelech died, and Naomi was left alone with her two sons, ⁴ who married Moabite women, Orpah and Ruth. About ten years later ⁵ Mahlon and Chilion also died, and Naomi was left all alone, without husband or sons. (GNT)

TEACHER:

Naomi loves her daughters-in-law, and they loved her. Naomi hears Israel is no longer in famine, so she sends her daughters-in-law back to their parent's homes, and sets off to her homeland.

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STUDENT:

⁷ They started out together to go back to Judah, but on the way ⁸ she said to them, "Go back home and stay with your mothers. May the LORD be as good to you as you have been to me and to those who have died. ⁹ And may the LORD make it possible for each of you to marry again and have a home."

So Naomi kissed them good-bye. But they started crying ¹⁰ and said to her, "No! We will go with you to your people."

¹¹ "You must go back, my daughters," Naomi answered. "Why do you want to come with me? Do you think I could have sons again for you to marry? ¹² Go back home, for I am too old to get married again. Even if I thought there was still hope, and so got married tonight and had sons, ¹³ would you wait until they had grown up? Would this keep you from marrying someone else? No, my daughters, you know that's impossible. The LORD has turned against me, and I feel very sorry for you." (GNT)

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TEACHER:

Orpah kissed her good-bye, but not so with Ruth.

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STUDENT:

¹⁶ But Ruth answered, "Don't ask me to leave you! Let me go with you. Wherever you go, I will go; wherever you live, I will live. Your people will be my people, and your God will be my God. ¹⁷ Wherever you die, I will die, and that is where I will be buried. May the LORD's worst punishment come upon me if I let anything but death separate me from you!"

¹⁸ When Naomi saw that Ruth was determined to go with her, she said nothing more. (GNT)

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TEACHER:

Naomi's hometown was Bethlehem. As God has chosen Ruth to be the Grandmother of King David, it is necessary for her to move back there.

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STUDENT:

¹⁹ They went on until they came to Bethlehem. When they arrived, the whole town became excited, and the women there exclaimed, "Is this really Naomi?"

²⁰ "Don't call me Naomi," she answered; "call me Marah,^[e] because Almighty God has made my life bitter. ²¹ When I left here, I had plenty, but the LORD has brought me back without a thing. Why call me Naomi when the LORD Almighty has condemned me and sent me trouble?"

²² This, then, was how Naomi came back from Moab with Ruth, her Moabite daughter-in-law. When they arrived in Bethlehem, the barley harvest was just beginning. (GNT)

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TEACHER:

Naomi had a rich relative of her late husband named Boaz. Ruth goes out to glean fields and ends up in Boaz's property. Gleaning is a process where one follows the professional harvesters hired to pick crops, and picks up what they leave behind. According to Levitical law you may not harvest a field twice. What you miss the 1st time you have to leave for the poor to "glean."

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STUDENT:

⁴ Some time later Boaz himself arrived from Bethlehem and greeted the workers. "The LORD be with you!" he said. "The LORD bless you!" they answered. ⁵ Boaz asked the man in charge, "Who is that young woman?"

⁶ The man answered, "She is the foreigner who came back from Moab with Naomi. ⁷ She asked me to let her follow the workers and gather grain.

She has been working since early morning and has just now stopped to rest for a while under the shelter."

⁸ Then Boaz said to Ruth, "Let me give you some advice. Don't gather grain anywhere except in this field. Work with the women here; ⁹ watch them to see where they are reaping and stay with them. I have ordered my men not to molest you. And whenever you are thirsty, go and drink from the water jars that they have filled." (GNT)

TEACHER:

Ruth bows to him in appreciation, and asks why he would be so kind to a foreigner.

STUDENT:

¹¹ Boaz answered, "I have heard about everything that you have done for your mother-in-law since your husband died. I know how you left your father and mother and your own country and how you came to live among a people you had never known before. ¹² May the LORD reward you for what you have done. May you have a full reward from the LORD God of Israel, to whom you have come for protection!" (GNT)

TEACHER:

Boaz invites her to eat with the workers.

STUDENT

¹⁴ At mealtime Boaz said to Ruth, "Come and have a piece of bread, and dip it in the sauce." So she sat with the workers, and Boaz passed some roasted grain to her. She ate until she was satisfied, and she still had some food left over. ¹⁵⁻¹⁶ After she had left to go and gather grain, Boaz ordered the workers, "Let her gather grain even where the bundles are lying, and don't say anything to stop her. Besides that, pull out some heads of grain from the bundles and leave them for her to pick up." (GNT)

TEACHER:

Ruth stayed until late and brought home 25 pounds of wheat, after she had beaten out the chaff. She even had Leftovers for Naomi from her dinner. Naomi is awestruck, and asks "whose field did you harvest in?"

STUDENT:

So Ruth told Naomi that she had been working in a field belonging to a man named Boaz.

²⁰ "May the LORD bless Boaz!" Naomi exclaimed. "The LORD always keeps his promises to the living and the dead." And she went on, "That man is a close relative of ours, one of those responsible for taking care of us."

²¹ Then Ruth said, "Best of all, he told me to keep gathering grain with his workers until they finish the harvest."

²² Naomi said to Ruth, "Yes, daughter, it will be better for you to work with the women in Boaz' field. You might be molested if you went to someone else's field." ²³ So Ruth worked with them and gathered grain until all the barley and wheat had been harvested. And she continued to live with her mother-in-law. (GNT)

TEACHER:

As we enter chapter 3, I want to warn you. Old women are sneaky.

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STUDENT:

CH. 3 Some time later Naomi said to Ruth, "I must find a husband for you, so that you will have a home of your own. ² Remember that this man Boaz, whose women you have been working with, is our relative. Now listen. This evening he will be threshing the barley. ³ So wash yourself, put on some perfume, and get dressed in your best clothes. Then go where he is threshing, but don't let him know you are there until he has finished eating and drinking. ⁴ Be sure to notice where he lies down, and after he falls asleep, go and lift the covers and lie down at his feet. He will tell you what to do." ⁵ Ruth answered, "I will do everything you say." (GNT)

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TEACHER:

I told you old women were sneaky. Naomi's plan worked.

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STUDENT:

⁶ So Ruth went to the threshing place and did just what her mother-in-law had told her. ⁷ When Boaz had finished eating and drinking, he was in a good mood. He went to the pile of barley and lay down to sleep. Ruth slipped over quietly, lifted the covers and lay down at his feet. ⁸ During the night he woke up suddenly, turned over, and was surprised to find a woman lying at his feet. ⁹ "Who are you?" he asked. "It's Ruth, sir," she answered. "Because you are a close relative, you are responsible for taking care of me. So please marry me." (GNT)

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TEACHER:

According to Jewish law, it was true what Ruth said. But Boaz wasn't her closest relative. There was 1 closer. Boaz would need to approach him and ask for her hand.

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STUDENT:

¹¹ Now don't worry, Ruth. I will do everything you ask; as everyone in town knows, you are a fine woman. ¹² It is true that I am a close relative and am responsible for you, but there is a man who is a closer relative than I am. ¹³ Stay here the rest of the night, and in the morning we will find out whether or not he will take responsibility for you. If so, well and good; if not, then I swear by the living LORD that I will take the responsibility. Now lie down and stay here till morning."

¹⁴ So she lay there at his feet, but she got up before it was light enough for her to be seen, because Boaz did not want anyone to know that she had been there. ¹⁵ Boaz said to her, "Take off your cloak and spread it out here." She did, and he poured out almost fifty pounds of barley and helped her lift it to her shoulder. Then she returned to town with it. ¹⁶ When she arrived home, her mother-in-law asked her, "How did you get along, daughter?"

Ruth told her everything that Boaz had done for her. ¹⁷ She added, "He told me I must not come back to you empty-handed, so he gave me all this barley." (GNT)

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TEACHER:

Boaz works out a deal with his relative, to buy all of Naomi's property and Ruth as his wife.

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CH. 4

STUDENT:

⁹ Then Boaz said to the leaders and all the others there, "You are all witnesses today that I have bought from Naomi everything that belonged to Elimelech and to his sons Chilion and Mahlon. ¹⁰ In addition, Ruth the Moabite, Mahlon's widow, becomes my wife. This will keep the property in the dead man's family, and his family line will continue among his people and in his hometown. You are witnesses to this today."

¹¹ The leaders and the others said, "Yes, we are witnesses. May the LORD make your wife become like Rachel and Leah, who bore many children to Jacob. May you become rich in the clan of Ephrath and famous in Bethlehem. ¹² May the children that the LORD will give you by this young woman make your family like the family of Perez, the son of Judah and Tamar." (GNT)

TEACHER:

The book ends with the lineage of King David, leading most scholars to believe the book was authored by the prophet Samuel.

STUDENT:

¹³ So Boaz took Ruth home as his wife. The LORD blessed her, and she became pregnant and had a son. ¹⁴ The women said to Naomi, "Praise the LORD! He has given you a grandson today to take care of you. May the boy become famous in Israel! ¹⁵ Your daughter-in-law loves you, and has done more for you than seven sons. And now she has given you a grandson, who will bring new life to you and give you security in your old age." ¹⁶ Naomi took the child, held him close, and took care of him.

¹⁷ The women of the neighborhood named the boy Obed. They told everyone, "A son has been born to Naomi!" Obed became the father of Jesse, who was the father of David.

¹⁸⁻²² This is the family line from Perez to David: Perez, Hezron, Ram, Amminadab, Nahshon, Salmon, Boaz, Obed, Jesse, David. (GNT)

NEXT LESSON 1 SAMUEL

*"May the Lord repay you for what you have done.
May you be richly rewarded by the Lord,
the God of Israel,
under whose wings you have come to take refuge."*

Ruth 2:12

WOMEN OF SCRIPTURE

A

- Abigail – mother of Amasa, Sister of David. *I Chronicles 2:15–17*
- Abigail – wife of the wicked Nabal, who became a wife of David after Nabal's death. *I Samuel 25*
- Abihail #1 – wife of Abishur and mother of Ahban and Molid. *I Chronicles*^[3]
- Abihail #2 – wife of king Rehoboam *II Chronicles*
- Abishag – concubine of aged King David. *I Kings*
- Abital – one of King David's wives *II Samuel; I Chronicles*
- Achsah (or Acsah) – daughter of Caleb. When Caleb promised her to Othniel in marriage, she requested that he increased her dowry to include not only land, but springs of water as well. *Joshua, Judges, I Chronicles*
- Adah – Adah # 1 – wife of Lamech, *Genesis*
- Adah – Adah #2 – daughter of Elon, the Hittite and one of the wives of Esau. Possibly original name of Bashemath. *Genesis*
- Ahinoam #1 – wife of King Saul, mother of Michal (wife of King David) *I Samuel*
- Ahinoam #2 – one of King David's wives, mother of Amnon. *I Samuel; II Samuel; I Chronicles*
- Aholibamah (or Oholibamah) – Daughter of Anah and one of Esau's wives. Also called Judith. *Genesis*
- Anna the Prophetess – aged Jewish prophetess who prophesied about Jesus at the Temple of Jerusalem. *Luke*
- Asenath – Egyptian wife of Joseph. *Genesis*
- Ashtoreth – Ancient Near Eastern goddess that mentioned in Judges, 1 Kings, and 2 Kings
- Atarah – second wife of Jerahmeel. *I Chronicles*
- Athaliah – Queen of Judah during the reign of King Jehoram, and later became sole ruler of Judah for five years. *II Kings, II Chronicles*
- Azubah #1 – Caleb's wife. *I Chronicles*
- Azubah #2 – wife of King Asa, 3rd king of Judah, and mother of Jehoshaphat. *I Kings, II Chronicles*

B

- Baara – Moabite, wife of Shaharaim. *I Chronicles*
- Basemeth #1 – daughter of Elon, the Hittite, One of the wives of Esau. *Genesis*
- Basemeth #2 – daughter of Ishmael and 3rd wife of Esau. *Genesis* Basemeth #3 – daughter of Solomon, wife of Ahimaaz. *I Kings*
- Bathsheba – wife of Uriah the Hittite and later of David, king of the United Kingdom of Israel and Judah. She was the mother of Solomon, who succeeded David as king. *II Samuel, I Kings, I Chronicles*
- Berenice – sister of King Agrippa Acts 25:13; Acts 25:23 and Acts 26:30

- Bilhah – Rachel's handmaid and a concubine of Jacob who bears him two sons, Dan and Naphtali. *Genesis*
- Bithiah – Pharaoh's daughter (Exodus). Also identified with/as Asiya in Muslim interpretations. Wife of Mered, a descendant of Judah. *1 Chronicles 4*

C

- Candace – Ethiopian queen; a eunuch under her authority and in charge of her treasury was witnessed to by Philip the Evangelist, led to God and baptized. *Acts*
- Chloe – mentioned in *Corinthians*. Means “Green herb”.
- Claudia – greeted by Paul the Apostle. *2 Timothy*
- Cozbi – A Midianite princess who was killed by Phinehas (grandson of Aaron) because her evil influence was seen as the source of a plague among the Israelites according to *Numbers 25*. The incident was then taken as a pretext for the War against the Midianites in *Numbers 31*.

D

- Damaris. *Acts*
- Deborah #1 – Nursemaid to Rebekah and later to Jacob and Esau. *Genesis*
- Deborah #2 – Prophetess and the fourth, and the only female, Judge of pre-monarchic Israel in the Old Testament. *Judges*
- Delilah – The "woman in the valley of Sorek" who Samson loved. *Judges*
- Dinah – Daughter of Jacob, one of the patriarchs of the Israelites and Leah, his first wife. *Genesis*
- Dorcas, also known as Tabitha. *Acts*
- Drusilla – The wife of a judge named Felix, mentioned in *Acts 24:24*.

E

- Eglah – One of King David's wives. *II Samuel, I Chronicles*
 - Elizabeth – Mother of John the Baptist and the wife of Zacharias. *Luke*
 - Elisheba – Wife of Aaron. *Exodus*
 - Ephah – one of the concubines of Caleb (prince of Judah) *I Chronicles*
 - Ephrath – Second wife of Caleb (the spy) *I Chronicles*
 - Esther (her Hebrew name was Hadassah) – Queen of the Persian Empire in the Hebrew Bible, the queen of Ahasuerus. *Esther*
 - Eunice – mother of Timothy
 - Euodia – Christian of the church in Philippi
 - Eve – First woman, wife of Adam. *Genesis*
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G

- Gomer – Wife of Hosea and a prostitute. *Hosea*

H

- Hagar – Egyptian handmaiden of Sarah, wife of Abraham. Hagar became the mother of one of Abraham's sons, Ishmael. *Genesis*
- Herodia
- Haggith – Wife of King David, mother of Adoniyah *II Samuel, I Kings, I Chronicles*
- Hammoleketh – possibly rules over portion of Gilead. *I Chronicles*
- Hamutal – Wife of Josiah and mother of "ungodly" sons Jehoahaz and Mattaniah. *II Kings, Jeremiah*
- Hannah – A prophetess and worshipper at Jerusalem. Mother of Samuel. *I Samuel*
- Hazzelepni – daughter of Etam, tribe of Judah *I Chronicles*
- Helah – *I Chronicles*
- Hephziba – Wife of King Hezekiah and mother of Manasseh, who undid Hezekiah's good works. *II Kings*
- Hodesh – one of the wives of Shaharaim *I Chronicles*
- Hodia's wife – *I Chronicles*
- Hogla (or Hogleh) – One of the five daughters of Zelophehad who fought and won the right to inherit their deceased father's property. *Numbers, Joshua*
- Huldah – Prophetess *II Kings, II Chronicles*
- Hushim – One of the wives of Shaharaim *I Chronicles*

I

- Iscah – Daughter of Abraham's younger brother Haran *Genesis*

J

- Jael – Heroine who killed Sisera to deliver Israel from the troops of king Jabin. She was the wife of Heber the Kenite. *Judges*
- Jecholiah (or Jecoliah) – Wife of Amaziah (King of Judah) and mother of Uzziah. *II Kings, II Chronicles*
- Jedidah – Wife of wicked king Manasseh and mother of Josiah. *II Kings*
- Jehoaddan (or Jehoaddin) – *II Kings, II Chronicles*
- Jehosheba (or Jehoshebeath/Josaba) – Daughter of Jehoram and wife of Jehoiada. She saved her nephew Jehoash from massacre. *II Kings*
- Jemima – One of Job's daughters. *Job*
- Jerioth – Wife of Caleb (son of Hezron) *I Chronicles*

- Jerusha – Daughter of Zadok, a priest, wife of King Uzziah and mother of Jotham. *II Kings, I Chronicles, II Chronicles*
- Jezebel #1 – Queen of ancient Israel. *I Kings, II Kings*
- Jezebel #2 – false prophetess. *Revelation*
- Joanna – One of the women who went to prepare Jesus' body for burial. *Luke*
- Jochebed – Mother of Moses, Aaron, and Miriam. *Exodus, Numbers*
- Judith – Hittite wife of Esau. *Genesis*
- Julia – Minor character in the new testament *Romans*
- Junia or Junias – Regarded highly by St. Paul in Romans. An apostle.

K

- Keren-Happuch – One of Job's daughters. *Job*
- Keturah – Wife of Abraham after Sarah's death. *Genesis, I Chronicles*
- Keziah – Second daughter of Job. *Job*

L

- Leah – First wife of Jacob who was given to him in place of Rachel whom he loved. *Genesis, Ruth*
- Lois, grandmother of Saint Timothy. *II Timothy*
- Lo-Ruhamah – Daughter of Hosea and Gomer. *Hosea*
- Lydia of Thyatira – the first converted believer after the resurrection, and the first to introduce it in to her household. She was a successful business woman and she was pivotal to the spread of the name of Jesus. *Acts*

M

- Maacah, the daughter of King Talmi of Geshur, was married to King David and bore him his son Absalom. 2 Samuel 3:3 [also spelled Maakah]
- Maacah – 2nd wife of King Rehoboam. Mother of Abijah, Attai, Ziza and Shelomith. Rehoboam loved Maacah more than any other of his wives or concubines. "II Chronicles"
- Maacah #2 – Sister of Makir, father of Gilead. Mentioned one verse later is Makir's wife, also named Maacah.^[103] "I Chronicles"
- Mahalath – daughter of Ishmael and 3rd wife of Esau. *Genesis*
- Mahalath – granddaughter of David and the first wife of King Rehoboam. *II Chronicles*
- Mahlah – one of the daughters of Zelophehad *Numbers, Joshua*
- Mahlah – *I Chronicles*
- Martha – *Luke, John*
- Mary – Mother of Jesus. *Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, Acts, Galatians*
- Mary the mother of James and Joses (or Joseph). *Matthew*
- Mary the mother of John Mark *Acts*

- Mary the sister of Martha. *Luke, John*
- Mary the wife of Cleophas. *John*
- Mary who was greeted by Paul. *Romans*
- Mary Magdalene – Disciple of Jesus *Matthew, Mark, Luke, John*
- Matred – *Genesis, I Chronicles*
- Medium of En Dor – *1 Samuel 28*
- Mehetabel – daughter of Matred. *Genesis; I Chronicles*
- Merab – King Saul's oldest daughter. *I Samuel*
- Me-Zahab – Mother of Matred, grandmother of Mehetabel. "Genesis, I Chronicles"
- Michal – daughter of Saul and wife of David. *I Samuel, II Samuel, I Chronicles*
- Milcah – wife of Nahor and daughter of Haran. *Genesis*
- Milcah – one of the daughters of Zelophehad. *Numbers, Joshua*
- Miriam – Moses' sister. *Exodus, Numbers, Deuteronomy, I Chronicles*
- Miriam – woman of Judah. *I Chronicles*
- Mother of King Lemuel – mother of King Lemuel that gave him the prophetic instruction that became Proverbs 31

N

- Naamah – Sister of Tubal-cain. *Genesis*
- Naamah – Mother of King Rehoboam. "II Chronicles"
- Naarah – wife of Asher, tribe of Judah. *I Chronicles*
- Naomi – mother-in-law to Ruth. *Ruth*
- Noa – daughter of Zelophehad. *Numbers*
- Noadiah – prophetess. *Nehemiah*

O

- Orpah – Sister-in-law to Ruth. *Ruth*

P

- Peninnah – Wife of Elkanah. *I Samuel*
- Persis – a "woman who has worked hard in the Lord" whom Paul the Apostle greeted. *Romans*.
- Phoebe – A deaconess of the church of Cenchrea. *Romans*
- Priscilla – wife of Aquila, and missionary partner to Paul the Apostle. *Acts, Romans, I Corinthians, II Timothy*
- Puah – one of two midwives who saved the Hebrew boys. *Exodus*

R

- Rachel – second wife of Jacob, and sister of Leah. Mother of Joseph and Benjamin. *Genesis, I Samuel, Jeremiah, Matthew*
- Rahab – of Jericho. *Joshua, Matthew, Hebrews, James*
- Rebekah – wife of Isaac and the mother of Jacob and Esau. *Genesis, Romans*
- Reumah – concubine of Abraham's brother Nahor. *Genesis*
- Rhoda – *Acts*
- Rizpah – daughter of Aiah and one of the concubines of King Saul. *II Samuel*
- Ruth – Boaz and Ruth get married and have a son named Obed. Obed is the descendant of Perez the son of Judah, and the grandfather of (king) David. *Ruth, Matthew*

S

- Salome #1 – daughter of Herodias. Name in Hebrew reads תימולש (Shlomit) and is derived from Shalom שולם, meaning "peace". *Matthew, Mark*
- Salome #2 – a follower of Jesus present at his crucifixion as well as the empty tomb. *Mark*
- Samaritan woman at the well, or Photine is a well known figure from the Gospel of John
- Sapphira – *Acts*
- Sarah #1 – wife of Abraham and the mother of Isaac. Her name was originally "Sarai". According to Genesis 17:15 God changed her name to Sarah as part of a covenant with Yahweh after Hagar bore Abraham a son Ishmael. *Genesis, Isaiah, Romans, Galatians, Hebrews, I Peter*
- Sarah #2 – wife of Tobias. *Tobit*
- Serah – daughter of Asher mentioned briefly in *Genesis*. *Genesis*
- Sheerah – founded three towns. Descendant of Ephraim. *I Chronicles*
- Shelomit – mother of blasphemer. *Leviticus*
- Shelomit – daughter of Zerubbabel, sister of Meshullam and Hananiah. *I Chronicles*
- Shiprah – one of two midwives who saved the Hebrew boys. *Exodus*
- Shua – daughter of Heber that mentioned in 1 Chronicles 7.
- Susanna #1 – a woman who was nearly sentenced to death due to false adultery accusations before being saved by Daniel. *Daniel*
- Susanna #2 – A follower of Jesus. *Luke*
- Syntyche – Christian of the church in Philippi mentioned with Euodia

T

- Tahpenes – an Egyptian queen mentioned in the First Book of Kings.
- Tamar #1 – daughter-in-law of Judah, as well as the mother of two of his children, the twins Zerah and Perez. *Genesis*
- Tamar #2 – daughter of King David, and sister of Absalom. Her mother was Maacah, daughter of Talmai, king of Geshur. *II Samuel*
- Tamar #3 – daughter of David's son Absalom. *II Samuel*
- Taphath – daughter of Solomon

- Tharbis – according to Josephus, a Cushite princess who married Moses prior to his marriage to Zipporah as told in the Book of Exodus. This name is not found in the Bible, and there is debate on if "the Kushite" refers to Zipporah herself or a second woman (Tharbis).
- Timnah (or Timna) – concubine of Eliphaz and mother of Amalek. *Genesis*
- Tirzah – one of the daughters of Zelophehad. *Numbers, Joshua*
- Tabitha (Acts 9:36) – from Joppa, Tabitha was always doing good and helping the poor. AKA 'Dorcas'
- Tryphena and Tryphosa are Christian women mentioned in Romans 16:12 of the Bible ("Salute Tryphena and Tryphosa, who labour in the Lord." KJV)

V

- Vashti – queen, and wife of King Ahasuerus. *Esther*

Z

- Zibiah – mother of Joash
- Zeresh – wife of Haman. *Esther*
- Zeruiah – daughter or stepdaughter of Jesse of the Tribe of Judah, was an older sister of King David. Zeruiah had three sons, Abishai, Joab, and Asahel, all of whom were soldiers in David's army. *II Samuel, I Chronicles*
- Zillah – wife of Lamech and the mother of Tubal-cain and Naamah. *Genesis*
- Zilpah – Leah's handmaid who becomes a wife of Jacob and bears him two sons Gad and Asher. *Genesis*
- Zipporah – wife of Moses, daughter of Jethro. *Exodus*
- Zuleika – Potiphar's wife and Asenath's mother. Asenath married Joseph, so she is the grandmother of Ephraim and Manasseh (Tribe of Joseph). She is given no name in the Bible, but is known as Zuleika (among other spellings) in Islamic and Jewish traditions.

**INTERIOR OF THE TOMB OF RUTH AND JESSE
(HER GRANDSON AND THE FATHER OF DAVID).**

**THIS COMPLEX IS STILL USED TODAY AS A
SYNAGOGUE.**

