

FAVORITE BIBLE CHAPTERS Lesson 12

Ruth 1

One of the most interesting books in the Bible is the book of Ruth. In the first chapter we find a tragic story of backsliding and its consequences.

The story is as follows: There was a man named Elimelech and a woman named Naomi who lived in Beth-lehem-judah.

There was a famine in the land, so Naomi and Elimelech took their two boys, Mahlon and Chilion, into Moab to find food. Mahlon and Chilion married two Moabitess girls named Orpah and Ruth.

This family did not intend to stay in Moab. They went to sojourn, or to pass through, to get some food. However, they stayed for ten years.

During this time Elimelech died; Mahlon died; and Chilion died, leaving Naomi with her two daughters-in-law, Orpah and Ruth.

These three widows faced the future without their husbands. Naomi decided to return to Beth-lehem.

Ruth decided to go with her. Orpah determined to stay in Moab. This is all of the story that we will discuss for this lesson from Ruth 1.

THE FAMINE. Ruth 1:1.

1. In the Bible a famine is usually _____ for sin.
2. No doubt the people of God had _____ and were being punished for their iniquities.

BETH-LEHEM.

1. This word means “_____.”
2. The people thought they were going to _____ for bread, when the truth is, they lived in the house of bread.

THE TRIP TO MOAB.

1. In the Bible, Moab is a type of _____.
2. When God’s people left the land of _____ to go to the land of Moab, it was always considered backsliding.

THE DURATION.

1. The word “_____” in Ruth 1:1. This word means “to pass through.”
2. They did not intend to _____ in Moab. They intended to go just for a _____.
3. This is always the _____.
4. People never intend to go into _____ for a long time; they just want to try it once.
5. Before they know it, Satan has _____ them, and they are living in Moab.
6. The truth is, they stayed _____. This was quite a long “sojourn,” was it not!

THE COMPANIONS.

1. Ruth 1:1, "...he, and his wife, and his two sons." He did not go to Moab _____; he took his family with him. No one ever backslides alone.
2. When we leave God, we _____ others and take others with us.

THE NAME "ELIMELECH."

1. "Elimelech" means "my _____ is king."
2. Here is something _____. God was not his king!

THE NAME "NAOMI."

1. "Naomi" means "_____."
2. However, when she returned to Beth-lehem after having been backslidden for ten years, she asked them to change her name to "_____." "Mara" means "_____."

THE NAME "MAHLON." Ruth 1:2.

1. "Mahlon" means "_____." No doubt he was a sick child. Here we find the punishment of God upon the backsliding of Naomi.

THE NAME "CHILION."

1. "Chilion" means "_____, _____, _____."
2. Here is the kind of sin that breeds _____.

ELIMELECH'S DEATH. Ruth 1:3.

1. God _____ Elimelech for backsliding by taking his life.
2. Naomi was also punished. She is now a _____ and is left with two sons to raise.

MAHLON AND CHILION'S MARRIAGES. Ruth 1:4

1. They married _____ girls, Orpah and Ruth.
2. What else could Naomi and Elimelech _____?

THE DEATH OF MAHLON AND CHILION. Ruth 1:5.

1. Backsliding leads to _____.
2. Naomi becomes _____, sin shows in her face, Elimelech dies, the boys marry heathen girls, and now her boys die.
3. It seems that there is no end of punishment for sin when one leaves the _____ of God.

May we be warned of the consequences of leaving God's will and backsliding.