



A Guided Tour of the Bible: Discovering God in

Ruth

Background

- This is the only book of the OT named after a Gentile and only one of two named after a woman.
- While Judges and 1 Samuel tell the story of Israel's national history, Ruth tells the story of one ordinary family.
- The events of this book take place during the times of the Judges (1:1). The author is unknown.
- The laws of Levirate marriage (Deut. 25:5-6), gleaning (Lev. 19:9-10) and the kinsman redeemer (Deut. 25:7-10) play a major role in the love story of Ruth and Boaz.

Roadmap

1. Love's Resolve (1)
2. Love's Response (2)
3. Love's Request (3)
4. Love's Reward (4)

Landmark

The theme of Ruth is "The Surprising Love of God." God's love surprises a prodigal family, a bitter widow, an idolatrous woman, and a failing nation.

Must See

Boaz is a picture of Christ:

- He cares for the stranger (2:10).
- He is the Kinsman-Redeemer
 - He has the rights to redeem (Gal. 4:4-5).
 - He has the resources to redeem (Eph. 1:17).
 - He has the resolve to redeem (Eph. 5:25).
- He took a Gentile bride.
- He is the Famous One from Bethlehem (4:11, 17).

Takeaway

1. God's surprising love is active even when unseen.
2. God's surprising love is experienced through the common kindness of His people.
3. God's surprising love is redeeming life from death, the extraordinary from the ordinary, and blessing from bitterness.