

From Bad to Worse

Ruth 1:1-5

Pastor Aidan J. Wengel - October 5th, 2025



Hebrew Bible Order: Proverbs 31, Ruth, Song of Songs.

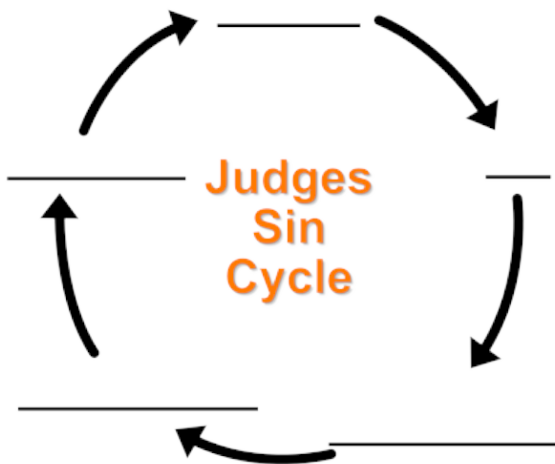
Proverbs 31 describes what a noble woman is, Ruth is a story about a noble woman meeting a noble man and entering into a noble marriage, Song of Songs describes what a noble marriage is.

Themes:

A change in identity; a noble identity.

Opening Context:

- Judges–Sin Cycle



- Famine (*Deut 28:1-5, 15-19*)

- Moab (*Deut 23:3-6*)

Teach me oh Lord, the way of your statutes; and I will keep it to the end.

Psalm 119:33

All scripture references, unless otherwise noted, are taken from the English Standard Version 2011

Importance of Names:

- Bethlehem = _____ of _____.
- Elimelech = _____ is _____.
- Mahlon & Chilion = _____ & _____.

When the _____ that " _____ is _____ " _____,
_____ abounds...

These took Moabite Wives = these lifted up Moabite women -
_____.

- Orpah = _____ / _____
- Ruth = _____; _____

Mahlon & Chilion's deaths were _____
_____.

When the _____ that " _____ is _____ " _____,
_____ abounds... and where _____ abounds, _____ abounds.

The prologue to Ruth ends with the reader expecting more _____ to
_____.

Theme: _____; _____.

Not only does the word play and irony apply to Elimelech's family and to Israel in his day, it also applies to every person without the LORD.

Ephesians 2:1-10

When _____ arrives, the _____ that " _____ is _____
_____ " _____, and _____ abounds.