

Some Background

Geographically the land of the Moab is just over the Jordan from Israel

The Moabite nation finds its origin in the incestuous relationship of Lot and his daughters – **Genesis 19:37-38**

Moabite women are involved in the seduction of Jewish men and turned them to the god Baal of Peor and a subsequent plague ensued- **Numbers 25**

The Jewish people were forbidden to inter-marry with these people – **Deuteronomy 7:1-5**

The Moabites worshipped the god Chemosh who apparently required blood sacrifices – **2 Kings 3:26-27**

The Moabites were forbidden in the assembly of the Lord forever – **Deuteronomy 23:3**

Returning from an _____

Ruth 1:13 - *Would you therefore wait till they were grown? Would you therefore refrain from marrying? No, my daughters, for it is exceedingly bitter to me for your sake that the hand of the LORD has gone out against me.”*

Ruth 1:20–21 - *She said to them, “Do not call me Naomi; call me Mara, for the Almighty has dealt very bitterly with me. ²¹ I went away full, and the LORD has brought me back empty. Why call me Naomi, when the LORD has testified against me and the Almighty has brought calamity upon me?”*

Remembered in an _____

Ruth 2:11–12 - *But Boaz answered her, “All that you have done for your mother-in-law since the death of your husband has been fully told to me, and how you left your father and mother and your native land and came to a people that you did not know before. ¹² The LORD repay you for what you have done, and a full reward be given you by the LORD, the God of Israel, under whose wings you have come to take refuge!”*

Ruth 2:19–20a - *And her mother-in-law said to her, “Where did you glean today? And where have you worked? Blessed be the man who took notice of you.” So she told her mother-in-law with whom she had worked and said, “The man’s name with whom I worked today is Boaz.” ²⁰ And Naomi said to her daughter-in-law, “May he be blessed by the LORD, whose kindness has not forsaken the living or the dead!” Naomi also said to her, “The man is a close relative of ours, one of our redeemers.”*

Risking in an _____

Ruth 3:3–4 - *Wash therefore and anoint yourself, and put on your cloak and go down to the threshing floor, but do not make yourself known to the man until he has finished eating and drinking. ⁴ But when he lies down, observe the place where he lies. Then go and uncover his feet and lie down, and he will tell you what to do.”*

Ruth 3:10–11 - *And he said, “May you be blessed by the LORD, my daughter. You have made this last kindness greater than the first in that you have not gone after young men, whether poor or rich. ¹¹ And now, my daughter, do not fear. I will do for you all that you ask, for all my fellow townsmen know that you are a worthy woman.*

Redemption in an _____

Ruth 4:5–6 - Then Boaz said, “The day you buy the field from the hand of Naomi, you also acquire Ruth the Moabite, the widow of the dead, in order to perpetuate the name of the dead in his inheritance.”⁶ Then the redeemer said, “I cannot redeem it for myself, lest I impair my own inheritance. Take my right of redemption yourself, for I cannot redeem it.”

Ruth 4:9–10 - Then Boaz said to the elders and all the people, “You are witnesses this day that I have bought from the hand of Naomi all that belonged to Elimelech and all that belonged to Chilion and to Mahlon.¹⁰ Also Ruth the Moabite, the widow of Mahlon, I have bought to be my wife, to perpetuate the name of the dead in his inheritance, that the name of the dead may not be cut off from among his brothers and from the gate of his native place. You are witnesses this day.”

The _____ – Ruth goes from:

A destitute widow to a wealthy wife - **Ruth 4:13a** - So Boaz took Ruth, and she became his wife....

A childless young woman to a blessed young mother - **Ruth 4:13b** - And he went in to her, and the LORD gave her conception, and she bore a son.

An obscure Moabite to the great grandmother of a king - **Ruth 4:18–22** - Now these are the generations of Perez: Perez fathered Hezron, ...²¹ Salmon fathered Boaz, Boaz fathered Obed, ²² Obed fathered Jesse, and Jesse fathered David.

A nobody from nowhere to the genealogy of Jesus - **Matthew 1:5–6, 16b** - And Salmon the father of Boaz by Rahab, and Boaz the father of Obed by Ruth, and Obed the father of Jesse, ⁶ and Jesse the father of David the king. And David was the father of Solomon by the wife of Uriah...of whom Jesus was born, who is called Christ.

