

Soncius Bk. of Ruth.

1 MAY 75  
R. GETZ.

Bk of Ruth likened to a valley  
fertile streams, green oasis  
tale of life, holy character  
not a history of public events  
domestic story in time of peace,  
blissful conditions, discloses folk  
customs & speech of simple village  
folk. At the end we find <sup>from</sup> this  
family <sup>is</sup> descended ~~from~~ sweet  
singer of Israel, David.

Heroine Ruth, devoted love.

Daughter-in-law & mother-in-law  
are bound together by kinship of  
two noble natures.

2  
Story:

Famine in land of Judah  
(incl. Jerusalem, Bethlehem).

A family left because of the  
famine, crossed the Jordan  
& Moab.

Eliemelech & Naomi.

2 Gideon Ma'ala.

Two sons marry two Moabités,  
Orpa & Ruth. Orpa & "Root".  
After death of 2 sons, Naomi  
wants to return to her home  
town Bethlehem "Baath Lechem"  
- house of bread. Her two  
daughters-in-law accompany her  
part of the way, Naomi urges  
them to return to their homes.  
Unselfish, she sends them back,

hoping they will perhaps re-  
many. They weep. Naomi says  
"Return ...". Orpa kisses her and  
returns, but Ruth cleaves to  
her. Ruth: "Entreat me not to  
leave thee ....

thy people shall be my people...  
where thou diest, I shall die...

.... only death part thee and  
me." Passionate declaration of  
tenderness and love.

Naomi sees that Ruth's mind is  
made up, two of them go  
together. Naomi's friends and  
neighbours come out to greet her  
after her ten-year absence.

Naomi says call me "Mara..."  
bitterness, wretchedness, whence

Naomi "sweetness".

Naomi's Kinsman - "ish gi' bor" of magnanimity, generosity, Naomi could have appealed to him, but Ruth offers to go out into the fields and glean. [Ruth evidently understands Jewish law whereby the poor are provided for gleaning in the fields in the corners....]. Naomi says "Go my daughter...". Ruth one day without knowing it, alighted on Boaz' field. She is noticed. "Whose ~~damsel~~ damsel is this?" Boaz goes up to her, Ruth bows down to him. "Let me find favour...." Notice the humanity and courtesy in the language, 3,000 years BEFORE birth of Jesus. Grace in their speech.

At mealtimes, Boaz asks her to sit next to him. Naomi on hearing of this, sees the hand of Divine Providence, she & Ruth, both widows, being cared for. Naomi tells Ruth that Boaz is a near kinsman. Ruth stays in his field for three months, for barley harvest & wheat harvest. Naomi would like to see Ruth settled i.e. married to someone worthy. Naomi, the wise old country woman, sends Ruth to bathe herself & go to Boaz when he is busy on the threshing floor.

Ruth "goes softly"; Boaz asks Who are you? And she answers: "I am Ruth, thy handmaid..."

6  
Boaz calls her a "virtuous woman"  
"Ay. shet cha-yil..."

Page 59 Rabbi's commentary.

Boaz gives her barley, she returns  
to Naomi. Tells Naomi everything.

Naomi says the matter will soon  
be resolved. Boaz calls to another  
kinsman, also "mingan" of 10  
men, announces he is going to  
sell a field belonging to  
Elimelech. Boaz says will you  
buy it .... you will also acquire  
Ruth to raise up a son ....

Kinsman replies he cannot, and  
over to Boaz .... (see page 63)

Chapter 4 verse 9. Boaz buys the field.

Boaz takes Ruth, and Ruth  
becomes his wife. Ruth bears  
a son, Naomi holds the new

baby, laid it in her bosom, i.e.  
Ruth's son is as her son.  
Verse 17 Child's name OBED. "Oved"...

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Shavuot  
Zman mataw Torah  
Time of the giving of the Torah...

Ruth a genuine proselyte. Noble,  
Sincere. She leaves home, country  
to go forth in faith. Why did  
she follow her mother-in-law, in  
poverty? She has been truly  
"kindled". Values implicit in Bk of Ruth:  
How great is the reward of those  
who do acts of loving kindness.  
Elevating influence of halo-ing  
of family life. Provides genealogy  
of David. (Musician, poet, psalmist

Ruth was his great grandmother.)  
 Bk of Ruth gives valuable picture  
 of social conditions & laws of  
 that time.

Is a testimony to meaning of  
 phrase fulfillment see the work of Mosaic law.  
 spiritual beauty of the Book shines  
 in speech of the main characters  
 of the story.

Beauty of the book indefinable.  
 Resplendent family from whom David  
 is descended, David means "beloved".

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~~Love~~ Living Faith.