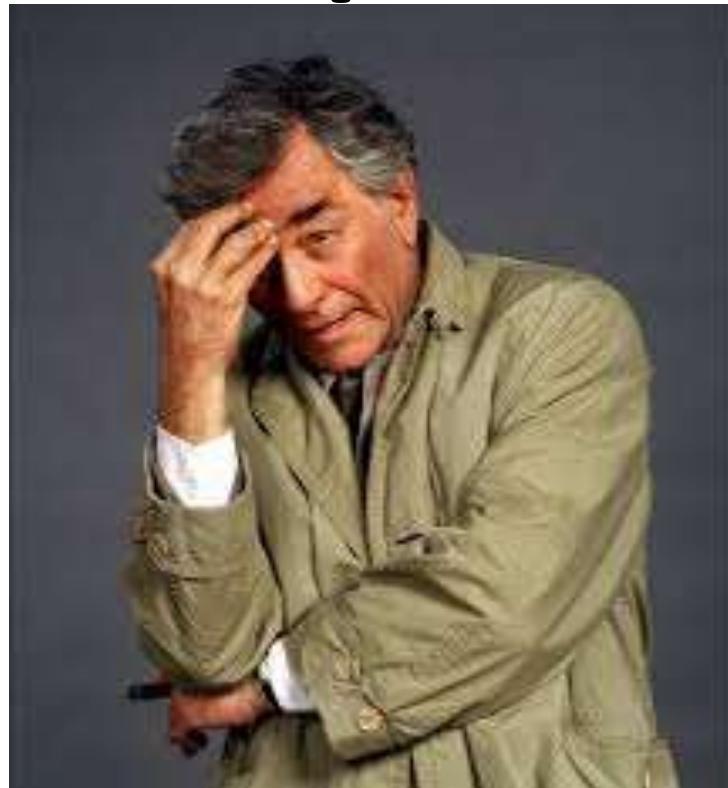


Ruth

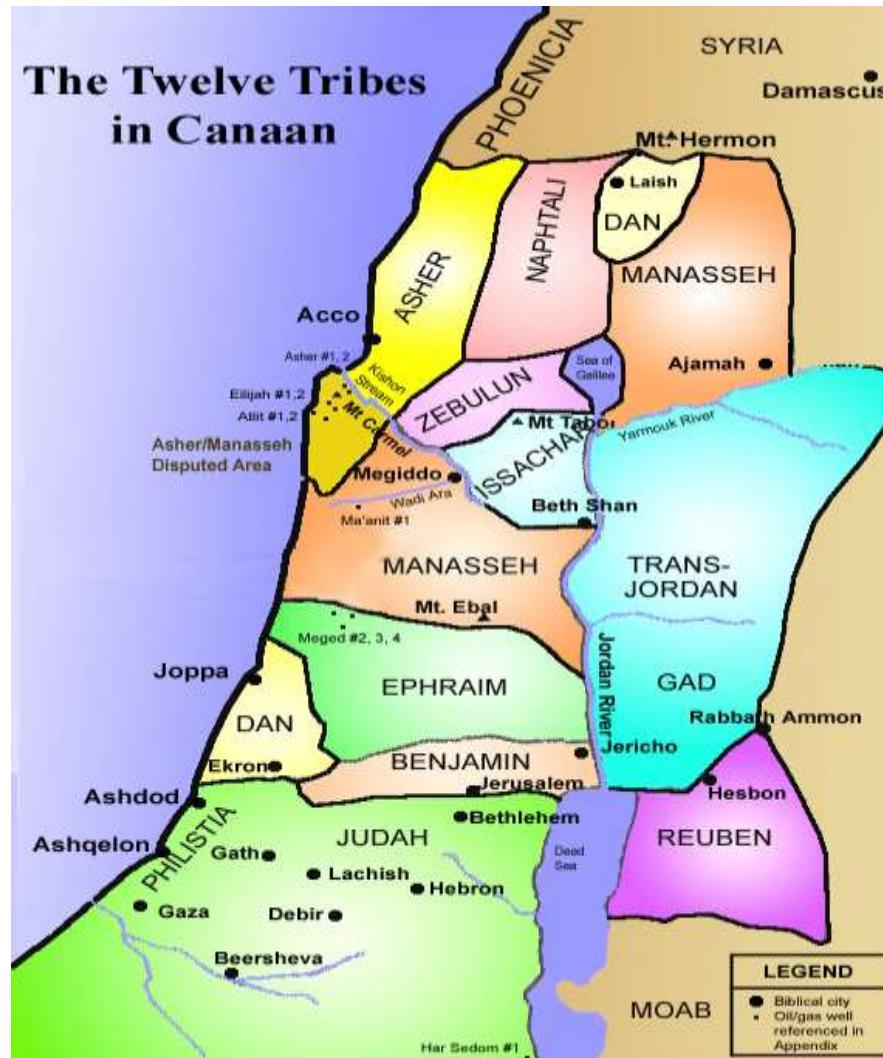
- Chapter 1



When was Ruth Written?

- Chapter 1 tells us during the time of the Judges
- This dates it about 1100 to 924 B.C. anyone who can give a closer window must have been there (you will hear this answer a lot from me)
- It clearly tells us though that it is post Joshua & pre the Kings

The Land at that Time



We will be looking through all the Books of the Bible Like Columbo

- **Digging for facts**
- **Asking that one more thing**
- **Seeing how this connects with the rest of the Bible**
- **Discovering that the entire Bible is about Jesus Christ and GOD's path toward our Salvation**
- **And NOT missing the detail, so counter a culture that tells us not to sweat them**

Ruth 1:1 ¶ Now it came about in the days when the judges governed, that there was a famine in the land. And a certain man of Bethlehem in Judah went to sojourn in the land of Moab with his wife and his two sons.

2 The name of the man was Elimelech, and the name of his wife, Naomi; and the names of his two sons were Mahlon and Chilion, Ephrathites of Bethlehem in Judah. Now they entered the land of Moab and remained there.

3 Then Elimelech, Naomi's husband, died; and she was left with her two sons.

4 They took for themselves Moabite women as wives; the name of the one was Orpah and the name of the other Ruth. And they lived there about ten years.

5 Then both Mahlon and Chilion also died, and the woman was bereft of her two children and her husband.

6 ¶ Then she arose with her daughters-in-law that she might return from the land of Moab, for she had heard in the land of Moab that the LORD had visited His people in giving them food.

7 So she departed from the place where she was, and her two daughters-in-law with her; and they went on the way to return to the land of Judah.

8 And Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, "Go, return each of you to her mother's house. May the LORD deal kindly with you as you have dealt with the dead and with me.

9 "May the LORD grant that you may find rest, each in the house of her husband." Then she kissed them, and they lifted up their voices and wept.

10 And they said to her, "No, but we will surely return with you to your people."

11 But Naomi said, "Return, my daughters. Why should you go with me? Have I yet sons in my womb, that they may be your husbands?"

12 "Return, my daughters! Go, for I am too old to have a husband. If I said I have hope, if I should even have a husband tonight and also bear sons,

13 would you therefore wait until they were grown? Would you therefore refrain from marrying? No, my daughters; for it is harder for me than for you, for the hand of the LORD has gone forth against me."

14 And they lifted up their voices and wept again; and Orpah kissed her mother-in-law, but Ruth clung to her.

15 Then she said, "Behold, your sister-in-law has gone back to her people and her gods; return after your sister-in-law."

16 But Ruth said, "Do not urge me to leave you or turn back from following you; for where you go, I will go, and where you lodge, I will lodge. Your people shall be my people, and your God, my God.

17 "Where you die, I will die, and there I will be buried. Thus may the LORD do to me, and worse, if anything but death parts you and me."

18 When she saw that she was determined to go with her, she said no more to her.

19 ¶ So they both went until they came to Bethlehem. And when they had come to Bethlehem, all the city was stirred because of them, and the women said, "Is this Naomi?"

20 She said to them, "Do not call me Naomi; call me Mara, for the Almighty has dealt very bitterly with me.

21 "I went out full, but the LORD has brought me back empty. Why do you call me Naomi, since the LORD has witnessed against me and the Almighty has afflicted me?"

22 So Naomi returned, and with her Ruth the Moabitess, her daughter-in-law, who returned from the land of Moab. And they came to Bethlehem at the beginning of barley harvest.
(NAS95)

Leader: This is the Word of the LORD

ALL: Thanks Be To GOD!!!!

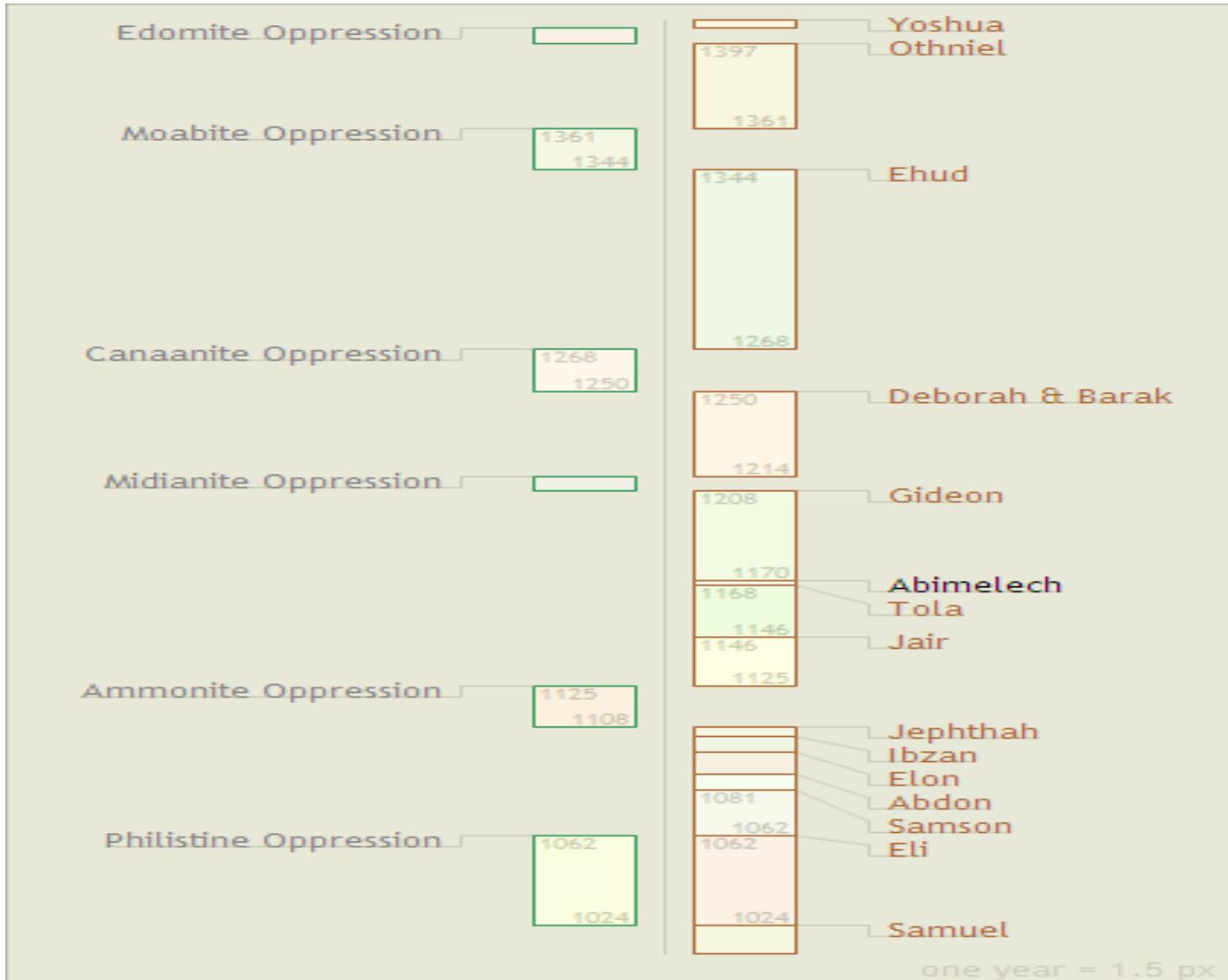
When do we know Ruth was written?

- Ruth 1:1a ¶ Now it came about in the days when the judges governed, that there was a famine in the land
- During the period of the Judges

The Land during the time of the Judges



The Judges of Israel



Where Does Elimelech Live?

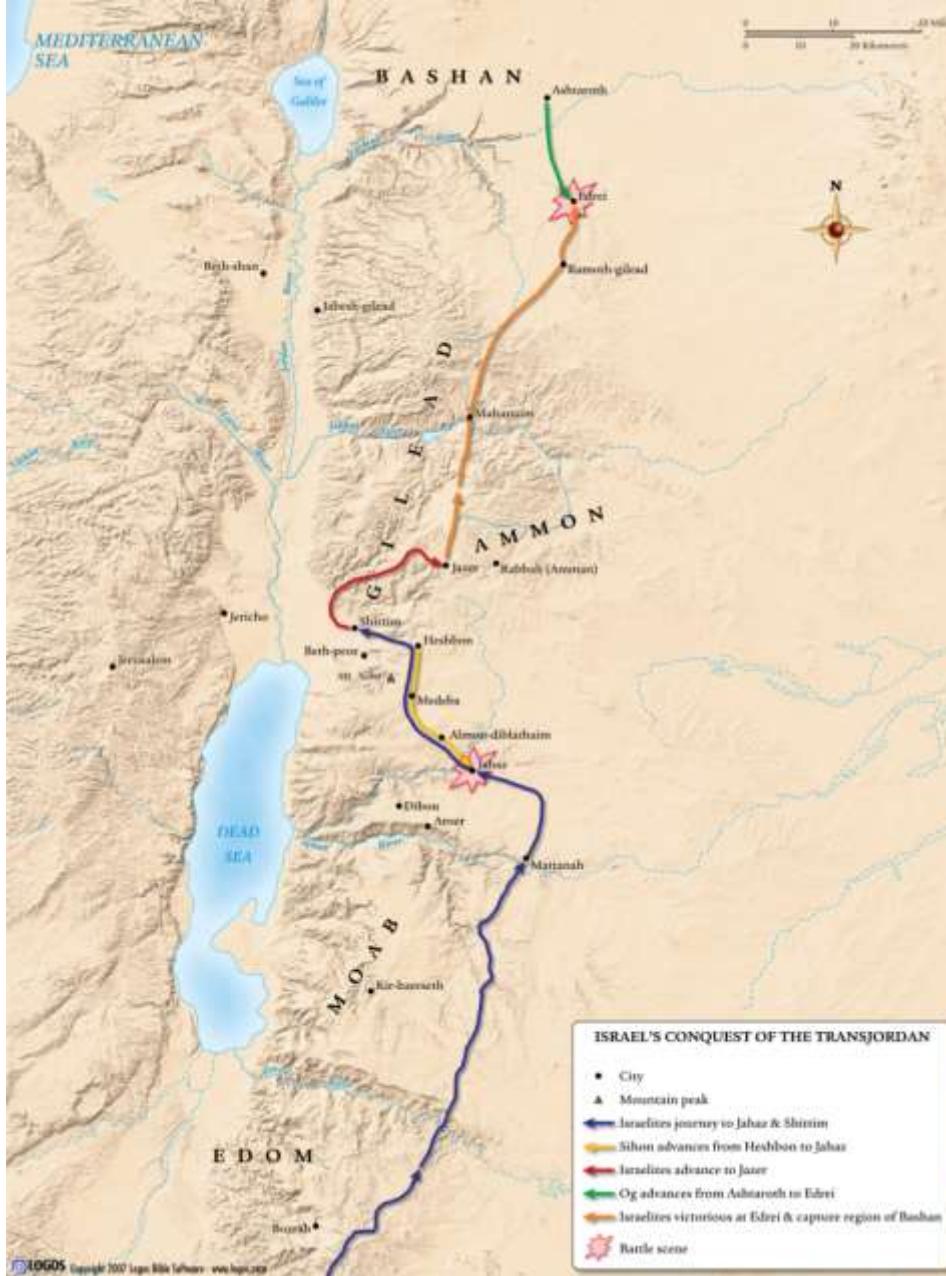
- Bethlehem
- What does Bethlehem mean?
- Beth = House
- Lehem = Bread
- So they live at the House of Bread

What does Elimelech's Name mean?

- El (לְאָ) = What?
- God or Lord
- Melech (מֶלֶךְ) = What?
- King
- His name most likely means God is Sovereign or King
- We will answer why this is ironic in a couple slides

What is happening in the House of Bread?

- A Famine
 - The 4th mentioned Famine in the Land
 - Ge 12:10 ¶ Now there was a famine in the land; so Abram went down to Egypt to **sojourn** there, for the famine was severe in the land.
 - Ge 26:1 ¶ Now there was a famine in the land, besides the previous famine that had occurred in the days of Abraham. So Isaac went to Gerar, to Abimelech king of the Philistines.
 - Ge 41:27 "The seven lean and ugly cows that came up after them are seven years, and the seven thin ears scorched by the east wind will be seven years of famine.
 - Ru 1:1 ¶ Now it came about in the days when the judges governed, that there was a famine in the land. And a certain man of Bethlehem in Judah went to **sojourn** in the land of Moab with his wife and his two sons.





What did you notice from the Maps?

- The paths?
- Elimelech chooses to do what?
- What do we know of Moab?
 - The LORD walked Israel to the Promised land.
 - Reverse the Path to the Promised Land
 - It is established out of an Incestuous relationship with the oldest daughter
 - Lot is the Father

So what's ironic about Elimelech's Actions?

- This man who's name means God is King reverses the GOD's path for Israel's trip to the Promised Land
- His son's do what?
- Take Moabites as Wives, reminding us of Genesis 6:1 ¶ Now it came about, when men began to multiply on the face of the land, and daughters were born to them, 2 that the sons of God saw that the daughters of men were beautiful; and they took wives for themselves, whomever they chose. 3 ¶ Then the LORD said, "My Spirit shall not strive with man forever, because he also is flesh; nevertheless his days shall be one hundred and twenty years."

So what?

- **We see that even a man who's name is based on the promises of the LORD struggles, as do we.**
- The LORD uses this struggle to again show his Mercy, can you guess how?
- We will not need to answer this until the end of the book of Ruth

The Sons names

- Mahlon = Sick
- Chilion = Weakness

Naomi, Ruth & Orpah head back to Bethlehem



Naomi Tell Her Daughters In-Laws What?

- 8 And Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, "Go, return each of you to her mother's house. May the LORD deal kindly with you as you have dealt with the dead and with me.
- Ru 1:9 "May the LORD grant that you may find **rest**, each in the house of her husband." Then she kissed them, and they lifted up their voices and wept.

Ru 1:9 "May the LORD grant that **you may find rest**, each in the house of her husband." Then she kissed them, and they lifted up their voices and wept.

Jer 6:16 Thus says the LORD, "Stand by the ways and see and ask for the ancient paths, Where the good way is, and walk in it; And **you will find rest** for your souls. But they said, 'We will not walk in it.'

Ps 22:2 O my God, I cry by day, but You do not answer; And by night, **but I have no rest**.

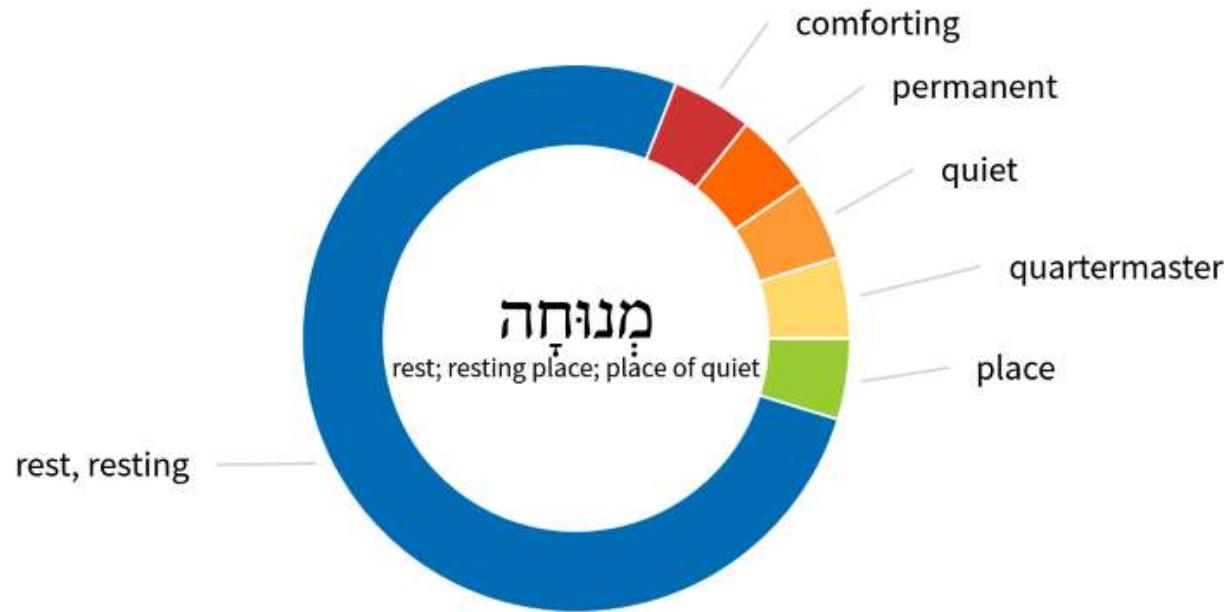
Ps 37:7 ¶ **Rest in the LORD** and wait patiently for Him; Do not fret because of him who prospers in his way, Because of the man who carries out wicked schemes.

Ps 55:6 I said, "Oh, that I had wings like a dove! I would fly away **and be at rest**.

Mt 11:29 "Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and **YOU WILL FIND REST FOR YOUR SOULS**.

(NAS95)

What type of Rest are we talking about?



Ps 95:11 "Therefore I swore in My anger, Truly they shall not enter into My rest."

Heb 3:11 AS I SWORE IN MY WRATH, 'THEY SHALL NOT ENTER MY REST."

Heb 3:18 And to whom did He swear that they would not enter His rest, but to those who were disobedient?

Heb 4:1 ¶ Therefore, let us fear if, while a promise remains of entering His rest, any one of you may seem to have come short of it.

Heb 4:3 For we who have believed enter that rest, just as He has said, "AS I SWORE IN MY WRATH, THEY SHALL NOT ENTER MY REST," although His works were finished from the foundation of the world.

This sure is not **Rest** as in Sleeping
But Rest as the Bible uses often in the
sense freedom from worry or completely
provided for.

It is that same Idea of
Mt 11:28 "Come to Me, all who are weary
and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest.

Mt 11:29 "Take My yoke upon you and
learn from Me, for I am gentle and
humble in heart, and YOU WILL FIND REST
FOR YOUR SOULS.

Orpah Returns, Ruth goes with Naomi



Ruth

- What does she say?
 - Your people will be my people your God will be my God
- Who does this quote?
 - God, when He say's "I will be your God, & and you will be My People
- Why is this important?
 - Ruth the foreigner has a better grasp of who God is then the people

The Direct quote

Ruth 1:16 But Ruth said, "Do not urge me to leave you or turn back from following you; for where you go, I will go, and where you lodge, I will lodge. Your people shall be my people, and your God, my God.

17 "Where you die, I will die, and there I will be buried. Thus may the LORD do to me, and worse, if anything but death parts you and me."

As they approach Bethlehem

Ru 1:18 When she saw that she was determined to go with her, she said no more to her.

19 ¶ So they both went until they came to Bethlehem. And when they had come to Bethlehem, all the city was stirred because of them, and the women said, "Is this Naomi?"

20 She said to them, "**Do not call me Naomi; call me Mara, for the Almighty has dealt very bitterly with me.**

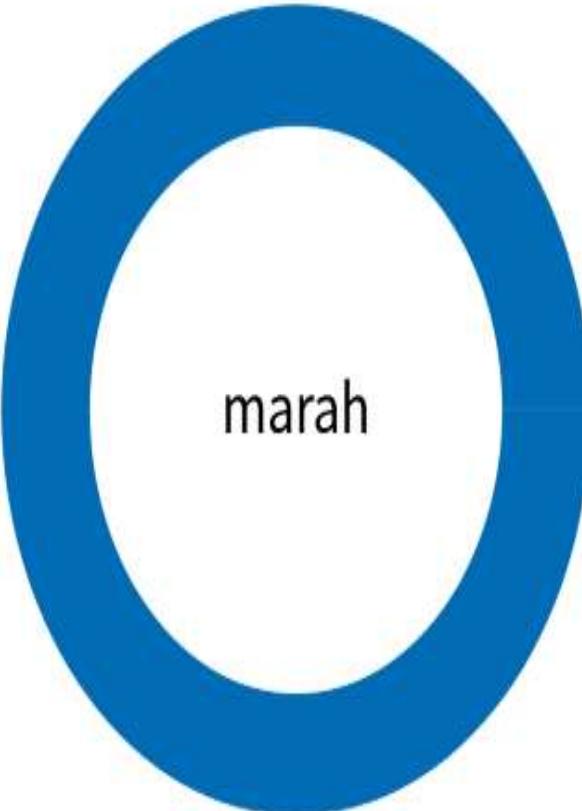
21 "I went out full, but the LORD has brought me back empty. Why do you call me Naomi, since the LORD has witnessed against me and the Almighty has afflicted me?"

22 So Naomi returned, and with her Ruth the **Moabitess**, her daughter-in-law, who returned from the land of Moab. And they came to Bethlehem at the beginning of barley harvest.
(NAS95)

What does Naomi call herself?

- **Do not call me Naomi; call me Mara**
- **What does Mara mean?**
- **Mara.**
- Name, meaning “bitter,” which Naomi gave to herself when she returned as a widow to Judah from Moab (Ru 1:20).
- *See Naomi.*
- **Marah.**
- Spring of water in the wilderness of Etham, the first camping place of the Israelites after crossing the Reed Sea (Ex 15:23; Nm 33:8, 9). The accepted identification is with *–Ain Hawarah, a pool of bitter water on the eastern coastal plain of the Gulf of Suez, about 44 miles southeast of Suez, and about 5 miles northwest of –Ain Gharandel, south of Wadi Amarah (which may preserve an echo of the ancient name)*.
- *See Wilderness Wanderings.*
 - Elwell, W. A., & Beitzel, B. J. (1988). In Baker encyclopedia of the Bible (p. 1393). Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Book House.

מָרָה
Mara



marah

Don't short change Marah

- Naomi is saying she is bitter, or yes poison!
- What would happen if you drank the waters of Marah?
- You would most likely die so, so she is probably calling herself poison!!
-

Who does she say allowed this and are you surprised?

- The LORD
- Does it surprise you?
- Naomi is acknowledging something that is true: Predestination
- She is claiming the LORD controls ALL Things and she is RIGHT!!

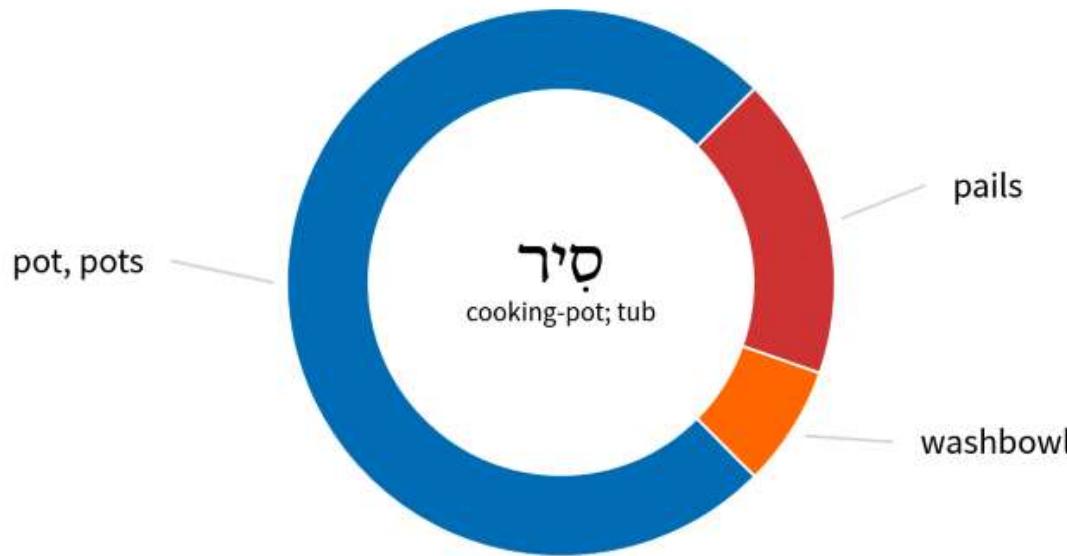
What do they call Ruth?

- **The Moabitess**
- **What does the calling her a Moabitess remind us of today?**
- **She is a foreigner or as we found in Florida not a Floridian since I was not born there.**
- **We need to keep Chapter 1 fresh as we move through out the letter**

Let's look at Moab and why is it important?

- Ps 60:8 "Moab is My washbowl; Over Edom I shall throw My shoe; Shout loud, O Philistia, because of Me!"
- Ps 108:9 "Moab is My washbowl; Over Edom I shall throw My shoe; Over Philistia I will shout aloud."

Reading in the context and judging the Negatives Moab is the LORD's Washbowl or yes night Urinal



So what's the Point

- **Moab is Not savable!!!**
- **So how can they be Part of this and the path of Salvation????**
- **Let's kick this around a bit**
- **It points again to NONE of us being savable!**
- **It point to Romans 3:10 as it is written,
"THERE IS NONE RIGHTEOUS, NOT EVEN ONE;**

This concept is the foundational understanding of the Entire Bible.

We need to fully grasp this as it reminds us salvation for us too on our own is IMPOSSIBLE!

That it is all of GOD's Mercy and always has been.

The Potter & the Clay again show us this truth!

The inclusion of the Impossible IS the Inclusion of US!