

Your God Shall Be My God (Ruth 1:1-22)

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March 4, 2012, at Harvey Park Baptist Church, Denver, CO

Messages posted at www.TheMessageofLife.com

INTRODUCTION TO THE MESSAGE

EXPOSITION:

During Judges (Midianite raiders) caused hunger in Judah (1:1a)

Date of events: David (born 1041 BC) was Ruth's grandson

The book is within the chronology of Judges, as
Midian caused problems in Judah.

Elimelech and his family moved to Moab to find food (1:1b)

**During Elimelech and Naomi's ten-sojourn, their sons married
Moabites, Ruth and Orpah (1:2)**

By the way, Deut 23:3 does not apply here

Elimelech died, leaving only Naomi and her sons (1:3)

2

**Mahlon and Chilion took Moabite wives (but had no children) after
ten years (1:4)**

Both sons died childless; Naomi, Orpah, and Ruth are all widows (1:5)

Naomi plans to go to Judah alone, wishing God's blessing on her daughters-in-law (1:6–10) 3

Naomi urges Orpah/Ruth to stay in Moab, because she is past childbearing; Orpah reluctantly obeyed, but Ruth clung to Naomi (1:11–14)

Reading between the lines

Naomi's crucial misunderstanding about Levirate marriage

An error in judgment on the part of Naomi

Naomi used peer pressure, but Ruth caused her to stop (1:15–18) 4

Naomi and Ruth return to a welcome, but Naomi is bitter (1:19–22)

They arrived in late May (at the start of the barley harvest)

CONCLUSION