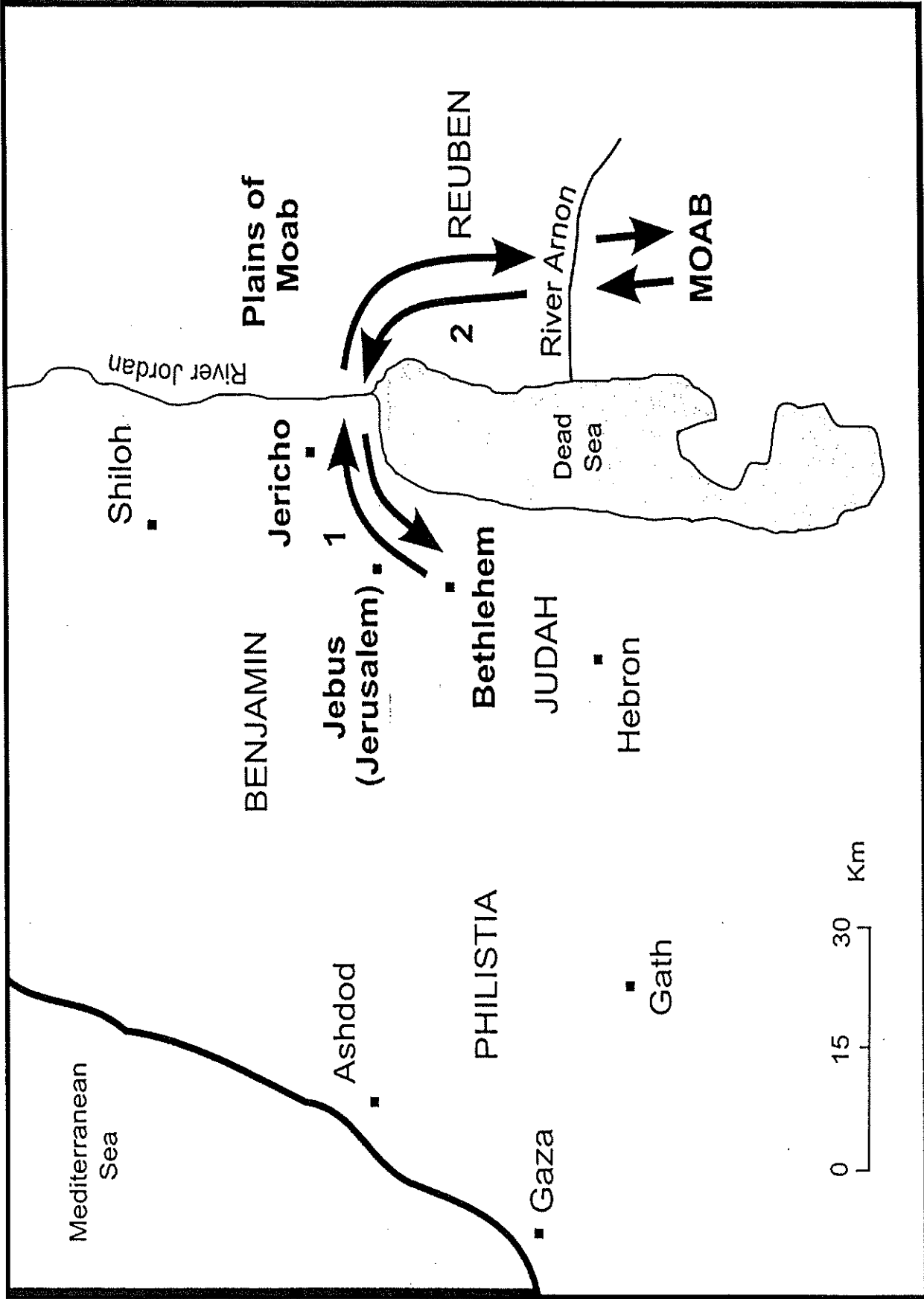


RUTH

Redemption for all



Ruth Lecture 2

Psalm 36:7

How priceless is your unfailing love, O God! People take refuge in the shadow of your wings.

2 Peter 1:2

Grace and peace be yours in abundance through the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord.

Philippians 2:13

for it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose.

James 4:6

But he gives us more grace. That is why Scripture says:

"God opposes the proud
but shows favor to the humble."

1 Peter 5:5-6

In the same way, you who are younger, submit yourselves to your elders. All of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, because,

"God opposes the proud
but shows favor to the humble."^{1a}

Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time.

Deuteronomy 23:3-6

No Ammonite or Moabite or any of their descendants may enter the assembly of the Lord, not even in the tenth generation. ⁴For they did not come to meet you with bread and water on your way when you came out of Egypt, and they hired Balaamson of Beor from Pethor in Aram Naharaim^a to pronounce a curse on you. ⁵However, the Lord your God would not listen to Balaam but turned the curse into a blessing for you, because the Lord your God loves you. ⁶Do not seek a treaty of friendship with them as long as you live.

Deuteronomy 25:7-10

However, if a man does not want to marry his brother's wife, she shall go to the elders at the town gate and say, "My husband's brother refuses to carry on his brother's name in Israel. He will not fulfill the duty of a brother-in-law to me." ⁸ Then the elders of his town shall summon him and talk to him. If he persists in saying, "I do not want to marry her," ⁹ his brother's widow shall go up to him in the presence of the elders, take off one of his sandals, spit in his face and say, "This is what is done to the man who will not build up his brother's family line." ¹⁰ That man's line shall be known in Israel as The Family of the Unsandaled.

Ruth – Lesson 2

1. Read Chapter 3 and mark every reference to Ruth, Naomi, Boaz, kinsman, relative and/or close relative, and redeem.
2. Look up the Hebrew word for *kinsman* and *close relative* that you marked earlier in the chapter. Now look up the Hebrew word that was translated *redeem* and write it below.
3. List what you learn from marking *kinsman*, *close relative*, *relative closer than I*, and *redeem*. This will help you understand *kinsman redeemer* as we study it next week.
4. What is Ruth asking of Boaz in verse 9? Does he understand? To help us answer that question more fully, let's compare it with Ezekiel 16:1-8 where God speaks allegorically about His relationship to Jerusalem, that is, Israel. Also look at verses 20 and 32, which help solidify your understanding of their relationship.
5. Read Chapter 4. Mark every reference to Ruth, Naomi, Boaz, relative, redeem, redeemer, redemption, buy, and any new character in the story. Watch the pronouns so you keep the men straight.

6. Summarize the events of this chapter in outline form to make sure you have the big picture, and the correct order in which everything occurs.

7. What do you learn from marking this new character in Chapter 4?

8. What do you learn from marking the word *buy*?

9. What are the blessings given by the people to:
 - a. Naomi

 - b. The union of Ruth and Boaz

10. Part of the blessing was that Boaz's house would be like the house of Perez whom Tamar bore to Judah. Although you may have studied Genesis, let's go back and look again at Genesis 38 and the birth of Perez.
 - a. Read Genesis 38:1-30. Explain how Perez happened to be born to Tamar, Judah's daughter-in-law.

 - b. Do you see any parallel between what Naomi said to Ruth and Orpah in Ruth 1:11-13 and Tamar's situation in Deuteronomy from Lesson 1?

c. What do you see in the genealogy given in Ruth 4:18-22?
In whose genealogy do you find Ruth and Boaz?

d. And in whose genealogy do you find King David?
Read Matthew 1:1-6.

11. Read Ruth 4:14 again.

a. When is this blessing being pronounced? Look at verse 13.

b. What is the Hebrew word for redeemer in this verse?

c. Who is the redeemer to whom the women are referring?

d. What do you learn about his name?

e. In verse 15 what do you learn about him with respect to life?

f. Now think beyond Obed to Jesus. Do you see any parallels?

g. Finally, let's go back to Matthew 1:5. Maybe you have already seen it, but who was Salmon's wife? What does that make her, if she was living, in relation to Ruth? And what do these two women have in common?

Wow aren't you just standing in awe of God? Doesn't this make you want to worship your sovereign God who, in all these difficult circumstances in Naomi's and Ruth's lives, worked out such an incredible plan? Aren't you excited to continue to study His Word and know that in every circumstance of your life, God is working out His sovereign purpose? Through Jesus' incomprehensible life-giving name, He restores your life and sustains you all your days!

Questions to Ponder

- 1. How was Ruth's response to Boaz an example for Christians to follow in their response to Jesus?*
- 2. In what ways did Boaz demonstrate integrity and character in this night-time encounter with Ruth?*
- 3. What character qualities in Ruth or Boaz do you wish you possessed?*
- 4. What does the story of Ruth (and the birth of Obed) have to do with the covenant God made with David?*
- 5. One person trusting the Lord and obeying His will can change a situation from defeat to victory. Can you think of examples (biblical and contemporary) of this truth?*