

Timeline of Truth – Ruth 1:1-5 – Tragedy, added to Adversity, added to Apostasy

THEME (Overall Idea for the Book):

God *always* rules:

- even when we cannot know what He is doing
- even when it takes many years
- even when God allows us to suffer

I am working on a rhyme that captures these ideas:

God is *always* in control | Though *we* may be *unaware*.

And God may work over *many years* | And allow troubles *hard* to bear.

But God is *always* in control | We can *trust His loving care*.

There are several verses that relay additional ideas, but the two that underscore the overall theme are:

<p style="text-align: center;">4:14</p> <p>Then the women said to Naomi, "Blessed <i>be</i> the LORD, who has not left you this day without a close relative; and may his name be famous in Israel!"</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">4:17</p> <p>Also the neighbor women gave him a name, saying, "There is a son born to Naomi." And they called his name Obed. He <i>is</i> the father of Jesse, the father of David.</p>
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Ruth 1:1-5 – Trouble Comes with Life

<p>¹ Now it came to pass, in the days when the judges ruled,</p>	<p>1. In the days of horrific _____ <i>We are affected by broad moral / religious drifts.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Rejection of God, truth, and righteousness b. God's discipline (Deut 28:18,23,38-40,42) c. Lack of leadership
<p>that there was a famine in the land. And a certain man of Bethlehem, Judah, went to dwell in the country of Moab, he and his wife and his two sons. ² The name of the man <i>was</i> Elimelech, the name of his wife <i>was</i> Naomi, and the names of his two sons <i>were</i> Mahlon ["sickly"] and Chilion ["failing"] -- Ephrathites of Bethlehem, Judah. And they went to the country of Moab and remained there.</p>	<p>2. They faced widespread _____ <i>We are affected by large troubles that affect many</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. External lifechanging circumstances b. Causes: Famine c. Effects: Moving to survive <i>Leaving home, possessions, family, friends</i> d. Effects: Going to foreign land e. Effects: Long-term displacement
<p>³ Then Elimelech, Naomi's husband, died; and she was left, and her two sons. ⁴ Now they took wives of the women of Moab: the name of the one <i>was</i> Orpah, and the name of the other Ruth. <small>It was not contrary to the Mosaic law for Israelite men to marry Moabite women (Deut. 7:1-3), but they were not to bring them into the congregation of Israel for public worship at the central sanctuary (Deut. 23:3-4). – Constable 2019, p. 19</small> And they dwelt there about ten years. ⁵ Then both Mahlon and Chilion also died; so the woman survived her two sons and her husband.</p>	<p>3. Then they faced personal _____ <i>We are affected by individual lifechanging circumstances</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Loss #1: Death of husband b. Impact: Loss of provider and protector c. Impact: Fatherless children d. Impact: Mates of children determined by location e. Impact: Change as time passes f. Problems can even compound g. Loss #2: Death of both of her sons h. (Maybe they were sickly, leading to untimely death)

We are impacted by large-scale and personal apostasy, adversity, and tragedy, but God is _____ actively in control.