

THE VALUE OF RIGHT DECISIONS (Ruth 1:6-22)

Jeremiah 17:5-10

I. Ruth Deciding... to remain with Naomi... Weeping (chp 1)

A. Elimelech's Decision to Go to Moab and Its Consequences (1:1-5)

Review:

Are our decisions important?

- How does spiritual growth happen?

B. Naomi's Decision to _____ to Bethlehem (1:6-14)

1. The Law of God had provided _____ in the fields for those in dire need. (Lev. 19:9-10, 23:22, Deut 24:19)
2. The reason she returned was because she had heard that the Lord had _____ his people by giving them _____.

- What would this news have indicated about the nation of Israel?
- What can you learn from this...about people's real needs?
- What can you learn from this...about prodigal sons (or daughters)?

3. The _____ on the way (1:8-14)

a. First, they discussed a _____ in _____. (1:8-10)

1) Naomi encouraged them both to _____ to their own _____ in Moab.(v.8)

2) Naomi's desire for them was _____, each in the house of their _____.(v.9)

- What did she mean by the word "*rest*"?
- *Why* did she encourage them not to come with her?

- Did Naomi reflect a divine perspective or a human viewpoint in her counsel to them - though she made mention of the LORD?

b. Next, they sought a _____ with _____. (1:11-14a)

- 1) Their future with Naomi was _____ because she had no other sons who could become their _____.

* What exactly did this refer to? (Deut. 25:5-10)

- 2) Naomi, it seems was too _____ to have another husband, and if she could, it would be too long a _____ for another son to be born and grow up to be their husband. (v.12-13)
- 3) Naomi states that the Lord's hand has been _____ her so she encouraged them to go back to their family in Moab to seek a _____ there, as this would be the _____ thing for them to do.

* What does this show you about the effects of human viewpoint picked up during her years of carnality?

- 4) Then they lifted up their voices and _____ again, and Orpah kissed her mother-in-law _____ and returned to _____. (1:14a)

C. Ruth's decision to _____ to Naomi (1:14b-22)

1. Although Orpah decided to return to Moab, Ruth decides to _____ to Naomi. (1:14b)

* What can you learn about decisions from this?

2. What did Ruth's decision involve?

- What was Orpah going back to?

*What does all this mean concerning our decisions?