

THE BOKE OF RUTH.

THE ARGUMENT.

THis boke is intituled after the name of Ruth: which is the printipal persone spoken of in this treatise. Wherein also figuratiuely is set forth the state of the Church which is subiect to manifold afflictions, and yet at length God giueth good and ioyful issue: teaching vs to abide with patience til God deliuer vs out of troubles. Herein also is described howe Iesus Christ, who according to the flesh ought to come of Dauid, proceeded of Ruth, of whome the Lord Iesus did vouchesafe to come, notwithstanding she was a Moabite of base condicion, and a stranger from the people of God: declaring vnto vs thereby that the Gentiles shoulde be sanctified by him and ioyned with his people, and that there shoulde be but one shepefolde, and one shepherde. And it semeth that this historie apperteineth to the time of the Iudges.

CHAP. I.

1. *Elimélech goeth with his wife and childre into the lād of Moab. 3 He and his sonnes dye. 19 Naomi and Ruth come to Beth-léhem.*

Elr. Iudged:

a In the land of Canaan. b In y^e tribe of Iudáh, which was also called Beth-léhé Ephrathish. because there was another citie so called in the tribe of Zebulun.



IN the time that the iudges ruled, there was a dearth in the land, and a mā of Beth-léhem^b Iudáh went for to sojourn in the cōtrei of Moab, he, and his wife, and his two sonnes.

And the name of the mā was Elimélech, and the name of his wife, Naomi: and the names of his two sonnes, Mahlón, & Chilion, Ephrathites of Beth-léhem Iudáh: and when they came into the land of Moab, they continued there.

3 Then Elimélech the housbād of Naomi dyed, & she remained with her two sonnes, Which toke them wiues of the Moabites: the ones name was Orpáh, and the name of the other Ruth: and they dwelled there about ten yeres.

By this wonderful prouidence of God Ruth became one of Gods household, of whome Christ came.

5 And Mahlón & Chilion dyed also bothe twaine: so the woman was left destitute of her two sonnes, & of her housbād.

6 ¶ Then she arose with her daughters in lawe, and returned from the countrey of Moab: for she had heard say in the countrey of Moab, that the Lord had visited his people, and giuen them bread.

a By sending them plentie againe.

7 Wherefore she departed out of the place where she was, and her two daughters in lawe with her, and they wēt on their way to returne vnto the land of Iudáh.

8 The Naomi said vnto her two daughters in lawe, Go, returne eche of you vnto her owne mothers house: for the Lord shewe fauour vnto you, as ye haue done with the dead, and with me.

9 The Lord grante you, that you may finde rest, ether of you in the house of her housbānd. And when she kissed them, they lift vp their voyce and wept.

o. Hereby it appeareth that Naomi by dwelling among idolaters was waxen colde in y^e true zeale of God, & rather hath respect to the ease of y^e body then to y^e comfort of y^e soule.

10 And they said vnto her, Surely we will returne with thee vnto thy people.

11 But Naomi said, Turne againe, my daughters: for what cause wil you go with me: are there anie mo sonnes in my wom-

be, that they may be your housbānds?

12 Turne againe, my daughters: go your way: for I am to olde to haue an housbād. if I shulde saie, I haue hope, & if I had an housbānd this night: yea, if I had borne sonnes,

13 Wolde ye tary for them, til they were of age? wolde ye be differred for them from taking of housbānds? nay my daughters: for it grieveth me muche for your sakes: for the hād of y^e Lord is gone out against me.

Or, more then you.

14 Then they lift vp their voyce, and wept againe, and Orpáh^f kissed her mother in lawe, but Ruth abode stil with her.

f When she toke leave & departed.

15 And Naomi said, Beholde, thy sifter in lawe is gone backe vnto her people & vnto her gods: returne y^e after thy sifter in law.

g No persuasions can preuaile to turne the backe fro God: whome he hath chosen to be his.

16 And Ruth answered, Intreat me not to leaue thee, nor to departe from thee: for whither thou goest, I wil go: and where thou dwellest, I wil dwell: thy people shall be my people, and thy God my God.

17 Where y^e dyest, wil I dye, and there wil I be buryed. the Lord do so to me & more also, if I ought but death departe thee & me.

18 ¶ When she sawe that she was stedfastly minded to go with her, she left speaking vnto her.

19 So they went bothe vntil they came to Beth-léhé: & whā they were come to Beth-léhé, it was noised of them through all the citie, and thei said, Is not this Naomi?

h Whereby appeareth y^e she was of a great familie & of good reputation.

20 And she answered the, Call me not Naomi, but call me Mará: for the Almighty hath giuen me muche bitternes.

i Or, beautiful. Or, bitter.

21 I wēt out ful, & y^e Lord hath caused me to returne empty: why call ye me Naomi, seing the Lord hath hūbled me, & the Almighty hath brought me vnto aduersitie.

22 So Naomi returned and Ruth y^e Moabite her daughter in law with her, when she came out of the countrey of Moab: & they came to Beth-léhé in the beginning of barley haruest.

i which was in the month Nisan, that containeth part of March & part of April.

CHAP. II.

1. *Ruth gathereth earne in the fieldes of Bóaz. 25 The gentleness of Bóaz toward her.*

Then Naomis housbānd had a kinsman, one of great power of the familie of Elimélech, & his name was Bóaz.

a. Bothe for vertue, authority and riches.

And

^b This her husband's declaration sheweth her great affection towards her mother in lawe, for as much as she spareth no painful diligence to get her their livings.

2 And Ruth ^f Moabitess said vnto Naomí, I pray thee, let me go to ^g ^h ⁱ ^j ^k ^l ^m ⁿ ^o ^p ^q ^r ^s ^t ^u ^v ^w ^x ^y ^z ^{aa} ^{ab} ^{ac} ^{ad} ^{ae} ^{af} ^{ag} ^{ah} ^{ai} ^{aj} ^{ak} ^{al} ^{am} ^{an} ^{ao} ^{ap} ^{aq} ^{ar} ^{as} ^{at} ^{au} ^{av} ^{aw} ^{ax} ^{ay} ^{az} ^{ba} ^{bb} ^{bc} ^{bd} ^{be} ^{bf} ^{bg} ^{bh} ^{bi} ^{bj} ^{bk} ^{bl} ^{bm} ^{bn} ^{bo} ^{bp} ^{bq} ^{br} ^{bs} ^{bt} ^{bu} ^{bv} ^{bw} ^{bx} ^{by} ^{bz} ^{ca} ^{cb} ^{cc} ^{cd} ^{ce} ^{cf} ^{cg} ^{ch} ^{ci} ^{cj} ^{ck} ^{cl} ^{cm} ^{cn} ^{co} ^{cp} ^{cq} ^{cr} ^{cs} ^{ct} ^{cu} ^{cv} ^{cw} ^{cx} ^{cy} ^{cz} ^{da} ^{db} ^{dc} ^{dd} ^{de} ^{df} ^{dg} ^{dh} ^{di} ^{dj} ^{dk} ^{dl} ^{dm} ^{dn} ^{do} ^{dp} ^{dq} ^{dr} ^{ds} ^{dt} ^{du} ^{dv} ^{dw} ^{dx} ^{dy} ^{dz} ^{ea} ^{eb} ^{ec} ^{ed} ^{ee} ^{ef} ^{eg} ^{eh} ^{ei} ^{ej} ^{ek} ^{el} ^{em} ^{en} ^{eo} ^{ep} ^{eq} ^{er} ^{es} ^{et} ^{eu} ^{ev} ^{ew} ^{ex} ^{ey} ^{ez} ^{fa} ^{fb} ^{fc} ^{fd} ^{fe} ^{ff} ^{fg} ^{fh} ^{fi} ^{fj} ^{fk} ^{fl} ^{fm} ^{fn} ^{fo} ^{fp} 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¹⁰ certain bondsmen,

^e That is, Take heed in what field they do reape

^f Enemies of the Moabites, & are enemies to Gods people.

^g Signifying ^h she that neuer wanteth this if she put her trust in God & line vader his protectiō.

ⁱ Which she brought home to her mother in lawe.

& let it lie, that she may gather it vp, and rebuke her not.

17 So she gleaned in the field vntil euening, and she threshed that she had gathered, and it was about an Ephá of barley. ^{End. 16. 86.}

18 ¶ And she toke it vp, & went into the citie, and her mother in lawe sawe what she had gathered: also she & toke forthe, and gaue to her that which she had reserued, when she was sufficed. ^{g To wit, of her bagg, as is in the Chaldep. text.}

19 Then her mother in lawe said vnto her, Where hast thou gleaned to day? & where wroughtest thou? blessed be he, that knewe thee. And she shewed her mother in lawe, with whome she had wrought, & said, The mans name with whome I wrought to day, is Bóaz.

20 And Naomí said vnto her daughter in lawe, Blessed be he of the Lord: for he ceaseth not to do good to the liuing and to the ^h dead. Againe Naomí said vnto her, The mā is nere vnto vs, & of our affinitie. ^{h To my hous band & childrē, whē they were aliue, & now to vs.}

21 And Ruth the Moabitess said, He said also certainly vnto me, Thou shalt be w my seruāts, vntil they haue ended all mine haruest.

22 And Naomí answered vnto Ruth her daughter in lawe, It is best, my daughter, that thou go out with his maids, that thei mete thee not in another field. ^{Or, fall vpon thee.}

23 Thē she kept her by the maids of Bóaz, to gather vnto the end of barley haruest, & of wheat haruest, and dwelt with her mother in lawe. ^{Or, returned to her mother in lawe.}

CHAP. III.

1 Naomí giueth Ruth counsel. She slepeth at Bóaz fete. 2 He acknowledgeth him selfe to be her kinsman.

3 Afterward Naomí her mother in law said vnto her, My daughter, shal not I seeke rest for thee, that ^a ^b ^c ^d ^e ^f ^g ^h ⁱ ^j ^k ^l ^m ⁿ ^o ^p ^q ^r ^s ^t ^u ^v ^w ^x ^y ^z ^{aa} ^{ab} ^{ac} ^{ad} ^{ae} ^{af} ^{ag} ^{ah} ^{ai} ^{aj} ^{ak} ^{al} ^{am} ^{an} ^{ao} ^{ap} ^{aq} ^{ar} ^{as} ^{at} ^{au} ^{av} ^{aw} ^{ax} ^{ay} ^{az} ^{ba} ^{bb} ^{bc} ^{bd} ^{be} ^{bf} ^{bg} ^{bh} ^{bi} ^{bj} ^{bk} ^{bl} ^{bm} ^{bn} ^{bo} ^{bp} ^{bq} ^{br} ^{bs} ^{bt} ^{bu} ^{bv} ^{bw} ^{bx} ^{by} ^{bz} ^{ca} ^{cb} ^{cc} ^{cd} ^{ce} ^{cf} ^{cg} ^{ch} ^{ci} ^{cj} ^{ck} ^{cl} ^{cm} ^{cn} ^{co} ^{cp} ^{cq} ^{cr} ^{cs} ^{ct} ^{cu} ^{cv} ^{cw} ^{cx} ^{cy} ^{cz} ^{da} ^{db} ^{dc} ^{dd} ^{de} ^{df} ^{dg} ^{dh} ^{di} ^{dj} ^{dk} ^{dl} ^{dm} ^{dn} ^{do} ^{dp} ^{dq} ^{dr} ^{ds} ^{dt} ^{du} ^{dv} ^{dw} ^{dx} ^{dy} ^{dz} ^{ea} ^{eb} ^{ec} ^{ed} ^{ee} ^{ef} ^{eg} ^{eh} ^{ei} ^{ej} ^{ek} ^{el} ^{em} ^{en} ^{eo} ^{ep} ^{eq} ^{er} ^{es} ^{et} ^{eu} ^{ev} ^{ew} ^{ex} ^{ey} ^{ez} ^{fa} ^{fb} ^{fc} ^{fd} ^{fe} ^{ff} ^{fg} ^{fh} ^{fi} ^{fj} ^{fk} ^{fl} ^{fm} ^{fn} ^{fo} ^{fp} ^{fq} ^{fr} ^{fs} ^{ft} ^{fu} ^{fv} ^{fw} ^{fx} ^{fy} ^{fz} ^{ga} ^{gb} ^{gc} ^{gd} ^{ge} ^{gf} ^{gg} ^{gh} ^{gi} ^{gj} ^{gk} ^{gl} ^{gm} ^{gn} ^{go} ^{gp} ^{gq} ^{gr} ^{gs} ^{gt} ^{gu} ^{gv} ^{gw} ^{gx} ^{gy} ^{gz} ^{ha} ^{hb} ^{hc} ^{hd} ^{he} ^{hf} ^{hg} ^{hh} ^{hi} ^{hj} ^{hk} ^{hl} ^{hm} ^{hn} ^{ho} ^{hp} ^{hq} ^{hr} ^{hs} ^{ht} ^{hu} ^{hv} ^{hw} ^{hx} ^{hy} ^{hz} ^{ia} ^{ib} ^{ic} ^{id} ^{ie} ^{if} ^{ig} ^{ih} ⁱⁱ ^{ij} ^{ik} ^{il} ^{im} ⁱⁿ ^{io} ^{ip} ^{iq} ^{ir} ^{is} ^{it} ^{iu} ^{iv} ^{iw} ^{ix} ^{iy} ^{iz} ^{ja} ^{jb} ^{jc} ^{jd} ^{je} ^{jf} ^{jj} ^{jk} ^{jl} ^{jm} ^{jn} ^{jo} ^{jp} ^{jq} ^{jr} ^{js} ^{jt} ^{ju} ^{jv} ^{jw} ^{jx} ^{ky} ^{kz} ^{la} ^{lb} ^{lc} ^{ld} ^{le} ^{lf} ^{lg} ^{lh} ^{li} ^{lj} ^{lk} ^{ll} ^{lm}

9 Then he said, Who art thou? And she answered, I am Ruth thine hádmaide: spread therefore the wing of thy garment ouer thine hádmaid: for thou art the kinsman.

d Thou shewest thy selfe from time to time more vertuous.

10 Then said he, Blessed be thou of the Lord, my daughter: y^e hast^d shewed more goodnes in the latter end, then at the beginning, in as muche as thou folowedst not yong^e men, were they poore or riche.

11 And now, my daughter, feare not: I wil do to thee all that thou requirest: for all the citie of my people doeth knowe, that thou art a vertuous woman.

12 And now, it is true that I am thy kinsman, howbeit there is a kinsman nearer then I.

e If he wil take thee to be his wife by y^e title of affinity, according to Gods law, Deut. 25.5.

13 Tary to night, & when morning is come, if he^e wil do the duectie of a kinsman vnto thee, wel, let him do the kinsmans duectie: but if he wil not do the kinsmans parte, then wil I do the duectie of a kinsmá, as y^e Lord liueth: slepe vntil the morning.

14 ¶ And she lay at his fete vntil the morning: & she arose before one colde knowe another: for he said, Let no man knowe, that a woman came in to the floore.

f Or, mantel.

15 Also he said, bring the^e shete that thou hast vpon thee, and holde it. And when she helde it, he measured six measures of barley, and laied them on her, & went into the citie.

f Perceuyng by her coming home, that he had not taken her to his wife, she was anonied.

16 And whé she came to her mother in law, she said, ¶ Who art y^e, my daughter? And she tolde her all y^e the má had done to her.

17 And said, These six measures of barley gaue he me: for he said to me, Thou shalt not come empty vnto thy mother in lawe.

18 Then said she, My daughter, sit stil, vntil thou knowe how the thing wil fall: for the man wil not be in rest, vntil he hath finished the matter this same day.

CHAP. IIII.

2 Boáz speaketh to Ruths next kinsman, touching her marriage. 7 The ancient custome in Israel. 10 Boáz marryeth Ruth, of whome he begetteth Obéd. 18 The generation of Phárez.

a Which was y^e place of iudgement.

¶ Then went Boáz vp to the^a gate, and sate there, and beholde, the kinsman, of whome Boáz had spoken, came by: and he said, b Hó, suché one, come, sit downe here. And he turned, and sate downe.

b The Ebrews here vse two wordes which haue no propre signification, but scrue to note a certaine person: as we say, boyrray, or hos, suché one.

3 Then he toke ten men of the Elders of y^e citie, & said, Sit ye downe here. And they sate downe.

And he said vnto y^e kinsman, Naomi, that is come againe out of y^e cóutrei of Moáb, wil sel a parcel of lād, which was our brother Elimélechs.

c Or, inhabitant.

4 And I thoght to aduertise thee, saying, Bye it before the^c assissans, and before the Elders of my people. If thou wilt redeme it, redeme it: but if thou wilt not redeme it, tel me: for I knowe that there is no-

ne besides thee to redeme it, & I am after thee. Then he answered, I wil redeme it.

c For thou art the next of kins.

5 Then said Boáz, What day thou byest y^e field of the hand of Naomi, thou must also bye it of Ruth y^e Moabiteffe the wife of the dead, to sterre vp the name of the dead, vpon his^d inheritance.

d That his inheritance might beare his name that is dead.

6 And the kinsman answered, I can not redeme it, lest I destroy mine owne inheritance: redeme, my right to thee, for I cā not redeme it.

7 Now this was the maner beforetime in Israel, concerning redeming and chāging, for to stablish all things: a man did plucke of his shooe, and gaue it his neighbour, and this was a sure^e witnes in Israel.

e That he had resigned his right, Deut. 25.9.

8 Therefore the kinsman said to Boáz, Bye it for thee: and he drue of his shooe.

9 And Boáz said vnto the Elders and vnto all the people, Ye are witnessses this day, that I haue bought all y^e was Elimélechs, and all that was Chilion & Mahlóns, of the hand of Naomi.

10 And moreover, Ruth the Moabiteffe the wife of Mahlón, haue I bought to be my wife, to sterre vp the name of y^e dead vpon his inheritance, and that the name of the dead be not put out from among his brethren, and from the gate of his^f place: ye are witnessses this day.

f Or, of y^e citie where he remained.

11 And all the people that were in the gate, & the Elders said, We are witnessses: the Lord make the wife that cometh into thine house, like Rahél and like Leáh, which twaine did buyld the house of Israel: and that thou maiest do worthely in s Ephráthah, and be famous in Beth-léhem, 12 And that thine house be like y^e house of Phárez (whome Thamár bare vnto Iudáh) of the sede which the Lord shal giue thee of this yong woman.

g Ephráthah & Beth-léhem are bothe one.

Gen. 35.19.

13 ¶ So Boáz toke Ruth, and she was his wife: and when he went in vnto her, the Lord gaue, that she conceiued, and bare a sonne.

14 And the women said vnto Naomi, Blessed be y^e Lord, which hath not left thee this day without a kinsman, & h his name shal be continued in Israel.

h He shal leaue a continuall posteritie.

15 And this shal bring thy life againe, and cherish thine olde age: for thy daughter in lawe which loueth thee, hath borne vnto him, and she is better to thee then seven sonnes.

i Meaning, manie sonnes.

16 And Naomi toke the childe, and layed it in her lap, and became nource vnto it.

17 And the women her neighbours gaue it a name, saying, There is a childe borne to Naomi, and called the name thereof Obéd: the same was the father of Ishái, the father of Dauid.

18 ¶ These