

The Road to Crisis

Ruth 1:1-5

I. Introduction

II. An unusual story unfolds. v. 1-2

- A. The setting was the time of the judges. (Judges 21:25, Gen. 12, Heb 11:9)
- B. Why was there a famine? (Lev. 26:3-5, 18-20, 1 Kg. 17, Gen. 19:30, Num. 22-25)
- C. Their sojourning turned into permanent residency. v. 2 (Amos 8:11, Gen. 35:16)

III. Unexpected tragedy unfolds as Elimelech loses all that he sought to gain. vv. 3-5

- A. We are quickly introduced to the crisis. v. 3 (Heb. 12:5-11, 2 Chron. 13:21)
- B. The Jewish men intermarried with Moabite women. v. 4 (Deut. 7:1-4, 2 Cor. 6:14ff, Mal. 2:11)
- C. The women are emptied of all of their resources and left desolate. v. 5 (Ruth 1:21, Deut. 32:39)

IV. You too will experience unexpected and unexplained providences in your life. vv. 3-5

- A. You will be tempted to worldly reasoning. (1 Tim. 6:10, 1 Jn. 2:15, Gal. 1:10, Pro. 1:7)
- B. You need to remember God's covenant faithfulness to His people. (Heb. 13:5, Is. 41:10)
- C. You too need to return to the Lord and to His people. (Luke 15:14-17)

V. Application/ Conclusion