

# RUTH

**AUTHOR:**

There is no clear author of the book of Ruth. While early on people believed that Samuel wrote the book of Ruth, it is now speculated that it was written some time after Samuel's death.

**DATE:**

The book itself states in chapter 1 verse 1 that Ruth lived during the period of the Judges (1375- 1050 BC). While there is no precise dating, many scholars believe that it was written some time before the people of Israel were exiled.

**AUDIENCE:**

This book was written for the Hebrew people.

**CONTEXT:**

This story takes place after the Israelites have taken the land of Canaan. It was a dark time in their history—people were more concerned with pleasing themselves than pleasing God.

**PURPOSE:**

Throughout the book of Ruth one can see that God is always in control. His providential salvation is seen through everything that happens. Not only does this show God saving one family but we can also see that He uses this ordinary family. The lineage of Ruth includes King David and ultimately Christ. Ruth shows how God redeemed His people. It also shows how He is at work in each individual's life.

