

New Song Community Church
Sunday August 28, 2016
Your History That Reveals Your Spiritual Destiny - Part 3
Seeing Your Season Through - Ivy Winkler
Book of Ruth

Notes- Background:

1. What was going on in Ruth & Naomi's nations around them? *We know that the story of Ruth was during the time when judges ruled (1:1). It is thought that this time period was when Moab ruled over Israel for 18 years until Ehud (a judge) killed King Eglon of Moab. Regardless we know that it was a time when judges ruled.*

2. What did Ruth's background look like being from Moab?

Ruth came from a people who had a scandalous past and a turbulent history. After the destruction of cities of Sodom and Gomorrah (Gen 19:1-35), the incestuous relationship between Abraham's nephew Lot and his daughters resulted in the birth of the ancestors of the Moabites and Ammonites (Gen 19:36-38). The Moabites had an uneasy and sometimes violent relationship with the children of Israel after the Israelites' exodus from Egypt (Ex 15:15; Num 22-25; 31:1-12; Dt 23:4).

At the end of the Israelites' forty year wilderness journey, the Moabites opposed the Israelites traveling through their lands and camping to the north of their territory along the Jordan River. Despite the objections of the Moabites and their attempts to dislodge them, the twelve tribes of Israel continued to camp on the plains of Moab across from Jericho in preparation for the conquest of Canaan (Num 22:1-6).

At the instigation of their Midianite allies/overlords, the Moabites successfully enticed the Israelite men to sin against Yahweh and His covenant with Israel by inviting the Israelite men to join in pagan fertility rites for the false god, Baal, worshiped throughout Canaan and on the east side of the Jordan River (Num 25:1-3).

However, their success was short lived. Their intrigue so angered God that He sent the righteous Israelite warriors who had resisted the temptations to engage in pagan worship into battle against the Moabites and Midianites who were defeated (Num 21:29-25:18; 31:1-12).

The contentious relationship between the Moabites and the Israelites continued after two and a half tribes of the Israelites settled on the east side of the Jordan River to the north of Moab while the remaining Israelite tribes settled in the land of Canaan on the west side of the Jordan River (Josh 24:9; Judg 3:28; 1 Sam 12:9; 14:47; 2 Sam 8:2; Jer 48:1-9).

No Ammonite or Moabite may ever be admitted into the community of the LORD, nor any descendants of theirs even to the tenth generation, because they would not succor you with food and water on your journey after you left Egypt, and because Moab hired Balaam, son of Beor, from Pethor in Aram Naharaim, to curse you ... Never promote their peace and prosperity so long as you live (Dt 23:3-7 NAB; emphasis added)
(agapebiblestudy.com/Ruth/Ruth_Lesson_1.htm).

Just to note: THANK GOD FOR HIS MERCY! THANK GOD FOR JESUS!

- 3. Do you think it matters to God if you come from a messy past and a complicated history?** *Space is left here for you to answer this after the sermon.... Blessings to you as you answer!*