

How to read Old Testament stories

- A. They are stories.
- B. They are true stories, written from God's perspective.
- C. The "Hero" of these stories is God.
- D. They are stories intended to point us to the coming Messiah.

Key themes in the story of Ruth ...

- (1) God's Providential Care Even in the Darkest of Times
- (2) God's Lovingkindness and Redeeming Grace
- (3) God's Providential Preparation for the Coming of His Son

Brutal Times, Bad Decisions, & Bitter Outcomes

Ruth 1:1-5

- 1. Difficult times are part of life.
- 2. Our natural inclination is to respond to trials with pragmatic, earthly choices.
- 3. Poor decisions often lead to bitter outcomes.
- 4. Wise, Godward choices bring spiritual blessing.