# **NAOMI AND HER DAUGHTERS IN LAW (Ruth Chapter 1)**



# **INTRODUCTION**

The Book of Ruth is historical fact. All the persons in the account actually lived and the events happened long ago just as they are recorded<sup>1</sup>. The Book of Ruth is also an allegory. The women represent groups of believers after Christ who make choices that mold the Church for ages afterward. Paul taught in Galatians 4 that women in Scripture, specifically **Sarah** and **Hagar**, were prophetic of groups of believers: Christians and Jews.<sup>2</sup> So our approach in looking at Bible women as prophetic figures for believers is valid exegesis.

# **LOT AS A BIBLE TYPE**

Lot left the Holy Land and pastured a flock in Sodom. Lot barely escaped the destruction of Sodom by following angels out of there. But righteous Lot did not return to the Holy Land. Lot chose to live out his faith among the Gentiles. However, Lot was tricked and incestuously became the father of Moab and Ammon. Ruth followed Naomi out of Moab back to the Holy Land. As a Gentile, Ruth accepted low social status among the Jews: even surrendering her firstborn son to Naomi. Ruth is highly regarded in the Jewish faith.

Christians also revere **Ruth** because of her stubborn loyalty, her self-sacrifice, and how she supported her mother-in-law in her time of need. This paper will show **Ruth** is by no means a Christian role model<sup>3</sup>.

Yet, we can definitively say that **Sodom** is a Bible type of Jerusalem, the City that crucified Christ [Rev. 11:8]. Unlike other Bible types the meaning of **Sarah**, **Hagar**, and **Sodom** is indisputable because Scripture settles it.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The author is unknown but the Book has long been attributed to the Prophet Samuel. Ruth is one of the oldest Jewish Scriptures.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Galatians 4:22-31

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> We invite you to read our other paper: "BOOK OF RUTH". Another perspective on the seduction of true faith by man's religion.

Therefore, **Lot** pre-figures early believers in Christ, who fled the persecution of the High Priest in Jerusalem following the murder of Stephen and took the Gospel to the Gentiles [Acts 8 v 1] [Acts 11 v 19-21].

However, **Lot** was tricked. Figuratively, the angels who led **Lot** out of Sodom were the apostles. They were not simple believers. They were exalted believers, holy messengers, possessing special wisdom, superior to the brethren. But this self-aggrandizement was to the detriment of the glory of the LORD.

The original gospel message to the Gentiles was: *Jesus is Savior, Jesus is Lord*. However, the paid ministers changed it to another gospel: *Jesus is Savior, Clergy is Lord*. Clerical fieldoms with chief clerical cities filled the world with priests, bishops, and archbishops. At the apex of the Church the Patriarch would rule over all.

**Lot** committed incest. Figuratively, the cave of Zoar is darkness to the gospel. In doing so, **Lot** became father figure [the Patriarch] of the body of Christian believers. Blasphemy!



# **MOAB AS A BIBLE TYPE**

The two daughters of **Lot**, with whom he committed incest, resulted in **two sons**: the firstborn called **Moab** and the younger called **Ammon** [Genesis 19]. Sons are Bible types of nations. Women are Bible types of believers. As the Book of Ruth explains, believers can migrate from nation to nation.

Who were the first Christian nations? Figuratively, the sons of **Lot**? The Roman Empire had always been pagan. **Constantine** changed that. By the Edict of Milan (313 AD) Christian religion was protected. **Constantine** bequeathed his Empire to Constantius II who passed it to Julian, then Jovian, then Valentian. Then the Empire split into East and West. **Constantine** became the new **Lot**, because he brought Christianity to the Gentiles. **Lot**'s two sons were therefore the **Eastern Empire**: <u>Moab</u>, and the **Western Empire**: <u>Ammon</u>. {Moab was the younger. Christianity as state religion first took root in the East.}

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Notice one of the daughters is reaching behind her back (secretly) to offer Lot (forbidden) fruit. This is the gist of this whole paper.

### **ELIMELECH AND NAOMI AS BIBLE TYPES**

By spiritual insight from the Book of Genesis combined with the Book of Acts, we believe **Lot** *in his early history as a free man* was prophetic of the first witnesses who took the gospel to the Gentiles. The **two angels** were prophetic of the <u>Jewish apostles</u> who introduced ecclesiastical hegemonies into the body of Christ. <sup>5</sup> **Constantine** was a type of **Lot** *in his later life* because he committed incest and fathered sons, Christian kings over Gentile lands. We will see this in the verse-by-verse exegesis of Ruth later in this paper.



**Constantine the Great** 

**Naomi** is the <u>Remnant of Roman Pagans</u>, belonging to the Roman state religion, formerly 'married' to the Roman Emperor, who are later widowed when **Elimelech** the last <u>Pagan Roman Emperor</u> (**Diocletian**) dies.

The two sons of **Elimelech: Mahlon** and **Chilion**, are the two halves of Rome: East and West respectively.

Roman pagans ate the forbidden fruit and were wise to Satan's kingdom. They commemorated their rebellion through pagan rituals and sacrifices. They were cursed for their disobedience by Almighty God. **Naomi** is the <u>fulfilment of the curse in the Garden of Eden</u>: a pagan Queen without a pagan King, without an Adam, a world ruler, and without sons, secular leaders to legally protect her (from being hunted down as a sorceress).

Significantly, **Naomi** is also a type of **Eve**, the mother goddess figure at the heart of ancient pagan religion.

The Book of Ruth says **Naomi** and **Elimelech** sojourned in **Moab**. The <u>chief diety of Moab, the Lord of the Moabites, was Chemosh</u><sup>6</sup>, the female consort of Ba'al, the sun god. This was the same primary female goddess worshipped by all the ancient Canaanites and Philistines. In Ammon she was also *Chemosh*. But nearby pagan nations gave her different names: *Ashtoreh* (Israel), *Ashtarte* (Phoenicia), *Ishtar* (Babylon).

Rome and Greece had a pantheon of gods different than Canaan. Their female gods were not supreme like Chemosh. However, Rome and Greece were derivative religions, once removed from the source. They

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Early in his ministry Paul resisted the emergence of ecclesiastical divisions (see 1 Cor, 2 Cor, Galatians). But later in his ministry he was appointing elders and establishing ecclesiastical rules through delegates (see 1 Tim, 2 Tim, Titus). Implicitly all the apostles were guilty of imposing the regulations of Christian apostles upon believers as early as the Council in Jerusalem (Acts 15).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> The Moabite Stone reveals Chemosh being referred to as Asthor-Chemosh. In Moab, the goddess Ashtoreth was masculinized.

refined their mythologies to suit their tastes. In Moab, **Naomi** was Queen. In Rome, she was something less. In a sense, even when Rome was officially a pagan state, the Roman Emperor was not her devoted guardian.

We will find out where the supreme female diety hid within the Greek pantheon in the next section. That will have direct implications for **Naomi** (Remnant Roman Pagans) and **Elimelech** (Pagan Roman Emperor).

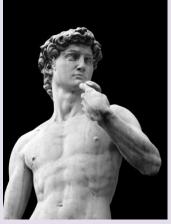
# BETHLEHEM, EPHRATHA, JUDAH AS BIBLE TYPES

The mystery deepens. Western Christianity has been kind to the 'little town of Bethlehem'. Every Christmas (a pagan festival rebranded) we sing hymns to Bethlehem. But the facts tell another tale.

Mary was great with child and about to deliver. She had completed a long journey and needed a room. But there was no room at the Inn for the mother in birth pangs. We don't know the reason. Perhaps the price of the room was excessively high: merchants profiteering on pilgrims. Perhaps the proprietors did not respect the accents of the Nazarenes, or trust them on their property. Perhaps no one would give up their room.

What we know for sure is there was not an ounce of compassion for **Mary**'s painful plight. The truth about **Bethlehem**, **Ephrath**, and even about **Judah** is the residents were notoriously greedy and hard hearted.

Bethlehem's most famous son was **David**. He was cut from this cloth. When **David** became King we saw <u>an irrepressibly ambitious ruler</u><sup>7</sup>. He attacked his neighbors on every side and cruelly subdued them. He killed prisoners. He even attacked and subdued Edom, which was forbidden in the Law of Moses.



Michelangelo's David

**King David** built himself an illustrious palace, the City of David. King David took as many wives as his heart desired. King David committed adultery with the wife of his trusted officer, Uriah. King David conspired to murder Uriah to cover his sin of adultery. God told King David he was a man of blood and not to build a new Temple. King David promptly ignored God's words and set forth to design a new Temple.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> We discuss the life of David and his remarkable degeneracy after becoming King in our paper "LAm the Sinner!"

**King David** hid the Ark of God in his fortress to prevent the Israelites from worshipping in the prescribed manner. King David's Temple was purposed to replace the humble Tabernacle of Moses. King David changed the historic Jewish religion from God's design set forth in the Torah to his own invention. Man's religion!

The result of the sins of **King David** were judgments from God. A plague fell on Israel. His son by Bathsheba died prematurely. His son Absalom rose up in armed rebellion. Many of his sons were murdered by their brothers. Jerusalem fell to invaders and the last man on David's throne was blinded and led away in chains.

What is **Bethlehem**, **Ephratah** prophetic of in the Bible? The coming of a supreme ruler over all his brothers:

"But thou, **Bethlehem Ephratah** ... out of thee <u>shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel</u>; <u>whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting</u>." (Micah 5 v 2)

Knowing what we know about **King David**, what sort of ruler do we suppose he will be?<sup>8</sup> Cruel! Ruthless!

### CITY OF TROY: ORIGIN OF ROMANS AND EMPERORS

With the advantage of hind-sight we can identify prophetic **Bethlehem** as it pertained to world history at the time of which the Book of Ruth prophetically speaks<sup>9</sup>.

**Troy** was an ancient city on the coast of the Dardanelles waterway between Europe and Asia. **Troy** was besieged by Athenian Greeks for six years and finally conquered and destroyed. According to Virgil's Aenid, prince **Aeneas** fled the destruction, took a long voyage, and ultimately founded the city of Rome.

Romans believed **Aeneas** was a god-man (<u>offspring of a man and a goddess</u>). Roman families who could trace lineage to **Aeneas** gained aristocratic status on the basis of a divine bloodline. Many Roman Emperors were descended from **Aeneas**: for example, **Julius Caesar** and **Constantine**.

According to the mythology of Romans, the 'Bethlehem' of their faith was Troy (Birthplace of Roman Emperors), and 'Ephratah' was the vicinity of Troy: Thrace on the European side and Troas on the Asian side.

In the Book of Ruth, **Naomi** (<u>Remnant of Roman pagans</u>) says she was from **Bethlehem**, **Ephratah** (<u>Birthplace of Roman Emperors</u>). The Hebrew word **Ephratah** means <u>Ash-Heap</u>. **Aenaes** shared a history like **Lot**: he fled the destruction of his home city from fiery judgment! And he founded new nations!

Other rulers trace their roots to **Aenaes**. A long line of Byzantine Emperors trace their roots to **Aenaes**. A long line of Ottoman Sultans ruled from Istanbul, formerly Byzantium, formerly Constantinople.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Micah 5 v 2 has more than one fulfilment. King David was born in the literal Bethlehem. For those who put their faith in the pagan pantheon there is another Bethlehem, another city where all-powerful kings can trace their bloodlines.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Ruth is the 233<sup>rd</sup> chapter in the Bible. The prophetic fulfilment of the Book of Ruth starts at 233 AD, when the great persecutions of Christians by Roman emperors began; the 'Famine in the Land' (spiritual hunger of Romans for Christ) shook the Empire!

After **Constantine** adhered to the Christian religion, he wanted a capital city without any of pagan sculptures and altars with which Rome was filled. **Constantine** wanted to build a new Rome, a new Empire. Of all the places in his empire, he selected <u>Constantinople</u>, which was located in Thrace.





Geographically, Constantinople lies at the juncture of Europe and Asia. Prophetically, Constantinople is located at the juncture of Roman pagan mythology and Bible prophecy. The Book of Ruth will show it is also it is the very place where pagan practices and Christian beliefs became tangled in noxious syncretism.

# **RUTH AS A TYPE**

**Naomi** (Remnant Roman Pagans) is the *mother-in-law* to **Ruth**. There is no connection in blood between them. **Ruth** is the former wife of **Mahlon**, the Eastern Roman Empire.

**Ruth** represents people from the most populous centers of the Christian faith from the time of Christ to the time of **Constantine**, specifically Greece and Asia Minor. These were the territories where the first churches were planted in the missionary journeys of the apostle **Paul**. After the initial harvest of believers in Jesus these were the places where Christian clergy put down the roots of ecclesiastical hegemony.

Early believers in Jesus had suffered a series of intense persecutions from Roman Emperors:

- Persecution of Nero (64-68 AD)
- Persecution of Maximus (235-236 AD)
- Persecution of **Decius** (249 AD)
- Persecution of Valerian (257-260 AD)
- Great Persecution of Diocletian and Galerius (303-313 AD) ~ right up to the time of Constantine

The **Edict of Milan** (313 AD) relieved Christians of the scourge of state-sponsored persecution by the Romans. However, it was <u>a double-edged sword</u>. The **Edict of Milan** also legitimized clerical practices in the Christian community and set the stage for increasing authority of clergy hand-in-hand with closer control of the clergy by the state. Ultimately, the process led in the extreme to the marriage of Church and State: the condition

where Popes gained absolute rule over lay believers, Popes anointed secular Emperors, and secular Emperors appointed Popes.

In miniature, the story of Ruth, is how poor, illiterate, and socially downtrodden early believers in Christ become the chattel of the aristocratic elites (Boaz), through a secular marriage contract (feudalism), via the scheming of church clergy, who themselves are steeped in pagan practices (Naomi), and take a share of the land (church property and entitlement to tithes from all citizens) as gratuity for their connivance.

**Ruth is** the prophetic fulfillment: <u>Remnant of East Christians</u>. By this we imply Ruth is herself not a Christian with a genuine heart faith. Ruth is simply the poor, illiterate masses of earlier times who by social convention went to Church services but had no spark of personal experience in knowing the Lord Jesus. **Ruth** had forgotten the Bible's happy gospel message of freedom in Christ: *Jesus is Savior, Jesus is Lord*. **Ruth** hears the mantra of religious bondage: *Jesus is Savior, Clergy is Lord*.

### CHAPTER 1 – BOOK OF RUTH

We are ready to begin our exegesis of Chapter 1, Book of Ruth!

Up to now we have laid a groundwork of prophetic interpretation of the characters in the story. What will now appear before our eyes are <u>detailed prophetic fulfillments</u> of the verses in Ruth. By the proof of fulfilled prophecy our interpretation of the characters will be validated. The prophecies of Ruth will appear as significant historical events familiar to every student of Church history and secular history.

The author hopes by the confirmation of prophecy the reader will appreciate how all of Church history from the time of Constantine onward represents a degrading of the pure message of salvation once received by the saints and its replacement by the religious inventions of men.

Eve gave Adam the forbidden fruit to eat. Eve was deceived by Satan, then Eve became a deceiver herself!

**Naomi** (<u>Remnant Roman Pagans</u>) directly inherits the mantle of **Eve**, the mother goddess figure, as passed down to her from generations of pagans (ancestor worshippers) all the way back to the **Garden of Eden**. When we see the mother-goddess appear in organized religion, as we will in the Book of Ruth, we will know without a doubt **Naomi** (<u>Remnant Roman Pagans</u>) had her hand in it. **Eve** is above all a religious spirit.

The Book of Ruth will show how **Naomi** (<u>Remnant Roman Pagans</u>) works her magic arts. Witchcraft is about controlling people: bending them to do your will. Witchcraft is the popular pastime of ambitious rulers eager to establish vast empires and to found lasting dynasties for the enjoyment of their offspring, not their people.

#### mark h lane

#### Ruth 1 v 1

"Now it came to pass, in the days the Judges ruled that there was a famine in the land. And a certain man of Bethlehem, Judah went to dwell in the country of Moab, he and his wife and his two sons"

'the Judges': military men who ruled as absolute dictators

Roman Emperors; 'a famine in the land': spiritual
hunger (of Romans for Christ); 'and a certain man of
Bethlehem, Judah': Diocletian, the last staunch pagan
Roman Emperor; 'went to dwell in the country of Moab':
Diocletian's capital was Nicomedia, not far from Troy; 'his
wife': Naomi (Remnant of Roman Pagans) was jealously
guarded; 'two sons': Diocletian declared a Tetrarchy; but
the Empire would split between East and West.

#### Ruth 1 v 2

"The man's name was **Elimelech**, his wife's name **Naomi**, and the names of his two sons were **Mahlon** and **Kilion**. They were Ephrathites from

Bethlehem, Judah. And they went to Moab

and lived there."

'Elimelech' means "to me, [belongs] royalty". Diocletian was acclaimed Emperor by the army; Rome was less than impressed: he did not have classic aristocratic bloodlines; 'Naomi': "Beauty". Diocletian did not forsake the pagan love for grand architecture, palaces, baths, forums; 'Mahlon': "Sickly"; how prophetic! Diocletian was struck by an illness on campaign in 304 AD; prophetic of East Rome who would suffer debilitating plagues in the future; 'Kilion': "Wasting Away"; Diocletian became emaciated, and retired in 305 AD; prophetic of West Rome's glory passing away; Italy to be ravaged, never to rise again.

### Ruth 1 v 3

"Now **Elimelech**, **Naomi**'s husband, died and she was left with her **two sons**."

'Elimelech' (Diocletian) died in 312 AD. Diocletian was the last Emperor of all Rome, a loyal husband of Naomi, a staunch pagan who persecuted Christians. In 293 AD he declared a Tetrarchy and divided the Empire four ways: ruled by two Augusti and two Caesars. In 308 AD Diocletian retired, and Naomi had "no husband" to rule the Empire. After 308 AD Naomi had "two sons", who ruled only part of the Empire, who were staunch Roman pagans: Galerius (293-305 AD) and his son-in-law Maxentius (306-312 AD). In 324 AD Constantine became sole Emperor of East and West.

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#### Ruth 1 v 4

"Now they took wives of the women of **Moab**,

The name of one was **Orpah**,

and the name of the other was **Ruth**.

And they dwelt about ten years."

'Moab' means "Who is your Father?" and prophetically refers to believers in Christ under authority of clergy.

'Orpah' means "Strip Naked"; an allusion to harlotry.
Orpah was the wife of Kilion, Western Empire. Orpah is
Remnant of Western Christians.

'Ruth' means "Gaze (at) Beauty" {scholars differ on the meaning}. Ruth was the wife of Mahlon, Eastern Empire. Ruth is Remnant of Eastern Christians.

The besetting sin of the Eastern Orthodox Church became the veneration of icons. This was **Ruth**'s downfall. She couldn't let go, stop gazing at, **Naomi** (remnant of Roman paganism). **Naomi** means "<u>Beauty</u>" (grand buildings, etc.)

### **PROPHETIC FULFILMENT**:

After the sack of Constantinople in **1204** by Crusaders, successor states vied to take back control of the former Byzantine Empire. In **1264** the Empire of Nicaea reclaimed Constantinople from the Latins. The Byzantine Empire revived. But, from **1331** to **1336** there was a civil war which devastated the Empire. Then Serbian King Stefan over-ran the territory and ruled from **1336** to **1346**. In **1354** an earthquake destroyed the fort at Galipoli allowing the Ottomans to enter Europe. In **1364** the Ottomans reduced the former Byzantine Empire to the confines of Constantinople. In **1453** the Ottomans captured Constantinople.

"and they dwelt about ten years": Christianity in the East ceased to possess an Emperor protector in **1331** during the six year civil war. Constantinople was dedicated as the capital of the Roman Empire in **330**; the Byzantium Empire founded originally by Emperor Constantine lasted 1,000 years, or about 10 centuries.

### Ruth 1 v 5

"both Mahlon and Kilion also died, and Naomi was left without her two sons and her husband" Julian 'the Apostate', sole Augustus (361-363 AD), was the last 'son of Naomi' (Remnant Roman Pagans) in the East. Julian purged Christians from public office and revived Roman pagan rites. Eugenius 'the Usurper' (392-394 AD) was the last 'son of Naomi' (Remnant Roman Pagans) in the West. In 380 AD Theodosius made Christianity the state religion. Roman senators wrote letters and appealed for return to traditional Roman beliefs. In 392 AD Western Emperor Valentian II, a Christian, was found dead. Roman senators and general Arbogast elevated Eugenius to West Emperor. Eugenius promoted pagan senators to key posts and recognized pagan shrines in Rome. But at the Battle of Frigidus he was defeated by Theodosius and the whole Empire was put back in the hands of an Emperor who suppressed paganism.

#### mark h lane

The remnant of Roman pagan believers and priests and former aristocracy were set aside. The world now revolved around a Christian Emperor, very engaged in promoting the Christian Church.

#### Ruth 1 v 6

"Then she arose with her daughtersin-law that she might return from the
land of Moab, for she had heard
in the land of Moab the Lord had
visited his people by giving them
bread."

The pagan world no longer had a Temple, a City, and an Emperor protector. Constantine had founded the City of Constantinople in 324 AD. All figures of Roman gods were removed and replaced by Christian symbols. Constantine built the Church of the Holy Apostles. And herein was the root of the neo-pagan tree. Like moths to a flame, "she arose" the spirit of Eve (ancestor worship) departed from the pagan temples of Rome and sought a new host "giving them bread" in Christian temples. Instead of venerating historic warriors and glorifying battles, the new theme was veneration of saints and glorification of apostles. Even from day one of Constantine's reign, paganism was in revival. The stratagem for pagan re-conquest was the Trojan Horse!

What happened to the pagan priests of Roman religion? Did they set down their mitres, pick up a hoe and return to honest labor on the land? The Roman Empire had officially welcomed Christianity but was still full of pagan people, pagan aristocrats, and pagan priests. These people now sought to be socially acceptable again. Pagans flooded into the churches that were built by Constantine. They bowed, kneeled, and sang hymns. On the face of it they looked like Christians but their hearts were filled with superstitions.

There were some, the crafty power hungry type, with restless ambition, who saw an opportunity to rise in the Church by outward display of piety. In a short while the Clergy became more competitive than Roman games: all striving for prestige, privilege, and position in the highest circles of imperial power. O woe to Christ!

### Ruth 1 v 7

"With her two daughters-in-law she left the place where she had been living and set out on the road that would take them back to the land of Judah."

As discussed in the preamble, the **Land of Judah** is the allegorical place where greedy, hard-hearted, self-centred elitists grasp for control of lands far beyond their home territory. **King David** was the arch-type of these people: he cunningly created a new temple religion to replace the simple faith of the people and supplant the lordship of Christ in their hearts. **Constantine**, as husband and caretaker of an empire, genuinely wanted good for it. He was the victim of the deception not the originator. But like **Adam**, he accepted the forbidden fruit offered to him by **Eve**. Magically, **Eve** had transformed herself from gowned Roman priesthood to gowned Christian priesthood. And **Adam** saw the wisdom of it: peace and prosperity for the empire. But it was blasphemy to **Christ**, the High Priest of the true Faith (Heb. 4 & 5).

#### FIRST COUNCIL OF NICEA



Neo-pagans!

### Ruth 1 v 8

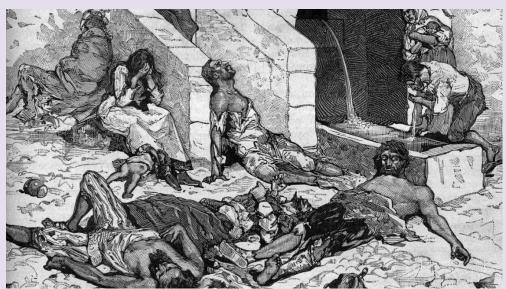
"And Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, 'Go, return each to her mother's house. the Lord deal kindly with you, as you have dealt with the dead and with me."

325 AD Council of Nicea. "Naomi said": the voice of the ancient wisdom of Eve (spirit of the pagan mother goddess) now spoke through the bishops of the new ecclesiastical religion that had supplanted simple faith in Christ. The message to "her two daughters-in-law", Ruth (Remnant Eastern Christians) and Orpah (Remnant Western Christians), was: "return each to her mother's house": divide Christianity into camps based on the authority of the 'mother': the clergy. The ruling of the First Council of Nicea accomplished this. The Arian definition of Christ was declared heretical. Emperor Constantine, who was present at the Council but did not vote, declared that bishops who did not endorse the Nicean Creed would be exiled. Out of 300 bishops, three bishops refused, were exiled, and ex-communicated. It doesn't look like there was much division was caused because the opinion of the bishops was almost unanimous. But many Christians in West were Arians. And the precedent of splitting up Christians along doctrinal lines was cast. This is antithetical to the Gospel: Christ has one Body (1 Cor. 12)

The **Nicean Creed** was a document drafted by men which demanded the loyalty and obedience of Christians equal to the written **Word of God**. The theological statements in the **Nicean Creed** were correct. But the document attained a status of equal merit to Scripture in the practice of the faith. This was in disobedience to the **Word of God** "For I testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: <u>if anyone adds</u> to these things, God will add to him the plagues that are written in this book" (Rev. 22 v 18)

History records clerics in Byzantium and Rome and in theological schools ever since have written down creeds and established endless scrolls of clerical utterances on high for laity to learn and obey. This wasn't the will of God. The Scripture is sufficient in all. But the clerics could not resist drumming out the voice of God. They went so far as to hinder Scripture from being accessible to lay people through translations in local languages.

The origin of the **Nicean Creed** was in Constantine's Empire. This became the Byzantine Empire. The Byzantine Empire was smitten by the <u>Plague of Justinian</u>. The clerics of Europe still did not repent of their sin against God in adding to the **Word of God**. All of Christian Europe was smitten by the <u>Black Plague</u> which reduced populations of cities by 25% to 40%.



**Black Death** 

Ruth 1 v 9

"The LORD grant that you may find rest each in the house of her husband' so she kissed them. And they lifted up their voices and wept."

"that you may find rest": Eve's wisdom appeals to the flesh. The Cross of Christ displays the outcome of contending for the faith: personal hardship. The seduction of organized religion is it promises peace. This is illusory since all forms of religion organized around man's authority is rebellion to the Gospel of Christ; God will punish this most severely (see paragraph above). "each in the house of her husband": the wisdom of Eve appeals to the love of this world. Religion organized around man's authority fits hand in glove with ambitious rulers who need thousands of subservient citizens and obedient soldiers. "and they lifted up their voices and wept": the outcome of Eve's wisdom for Europe would be centuries of conflict between Christian kings, mostly fighting among themselves.

#### mark h lane

### **Ruth 1 v 10**

"and they said to her

we will go back with you

to your people"

Why did the Roman Empire collapse? Because citizens all the way up the Emperor finally saw it was hopeless: it could never succeed. The people begged **Diocletian** to come out of retirement to bring order between the warring factions of Tetrarchy. He said "(why would) *I replace the peace and happiness of this place with the storms of a never-satisfied greed*." "we will go back with you to your people" ASTOUNDING PROPHECY. European Christians will eventually lose heart from all the wars of greedy kings and fractious clerical systems. Europeans will reject and renounce Christianity – due to the gross sins and harlotry of the Church. But more than that! Eventually, Europeans will return to the primeval paganism from which they sprang. **O Eve!** You are diabolical!

### **Ruth 1 v 11**

"But Naomi said:

turn back my daughters;

why will you go with me?

are there still sons in my womb that might be your husbands?"

The Arian Controversy did not end at the Council of Nicea; it raged on for another 55 years. "turn back my daughters": Arianism reduces Jesus to an avatar, a created god, continually being reborn and visiting the earth. Arianism undercuts the Christian hope in resurrection of the body and turns our faith into Eastern mysticism. In so doing the Cross is nullified. Naomi's question: "are there still sons in my womb?" is at the heart of the controversy. If Jesus was created by the Father, as Arius proposed, then what might stop the Father from creating another Jesus at some later time? "that they might be your husbands?": And if the first Jesus was Lord, then wouldn't the second Jesus also be Lord? If Jesus' Second Coming is not the appearance of the resurrected Christ, as the Gospels teach, but the miraculous birth of a newly "created" Jesus, then God needs another Mary [Eve] to provide a Womb [for the False Messiah]!

Pagan mythology re-attached itself to **Jesus** and **Mary**. Christendom has struggled to de-bunk it. The decision to found New Rome in environs steeped in Greek mythology, temples, and pantheon of gods was ill-fated.

As we will see in the Book of Ruth, the clerical crusade against **Arianism** merely forced the 'Athenians' to retreat back into the 'Trojan Horse', the **Womb**, until an opportune time to reappear and attack the Gospel.

The **Womb** is a metaphor of church building centered clerical religions. See how cathedrals in Europe have two towers? The knees of **Naomi**. Church door, her pubis; Church hall, her uterus; Church Sanctuary, her pagan altar of god birth. Even without the doctrine of trans-substantiation, all clerical religions are **Naomi**.

#### Ruth 1 v 12

"Turn back, my daughters, go!
for I am too old to have a husband.
If I should have hope and
if I should have a husband tonight
and should also bear sons..."

335 AD Synod of Tyre. The Emperor Constantine, acting like the husband of the church, ordered a Synod of bishops to be convocated. "Turn back, my daughters": He directed where the bishops should assemble, at Tyre; and the agenda, to examine charges against Athanasius, Bishop of Alexandria. "I should have hope" Emperor Constantine wanted

Athanasius to re-admit Arius to the church – which he would not do.

About 310 bishops attended. Athanasius appeared with 48 Egyptian bishops. "and should bear sons" The Council condemned Athanasius.

Athanasius appealed directly to Emperor Constantine, but was still exiled.

<u>In miniature, the entire history of the corruption of Clerical Church religion is portrayed</u>. Within a short time of condemning **Arius** at **Nicea** the bishops of the Church proved they were putty in the hands of the Emperor. They ruled according to the Emperor's will – in direct opposition to the truth of Scripture – as memorialized in a document they all swore to uphold – even betraying a faithful witness to the ban.

Thus, the bishops of the Church proved they were not sons of God through faith in Jesus Christ, they were 'sons' of the Emperor, men appointed to high office whose purpose it was to keep the Church loyal to the Emperor. These are just the weak-willed priests **Naomi** had 'hope' for in her plan to seduce Christianity.

### **Ruth 1 v 13**

"would you wait for them
till they were grown? Would you
restrain yourselves from having
husbands? No, my daughters;
For it grieves me very much for
your sakes that the hand of the
LORD has gone out against me."

**381 AD.** Council of Constantinople. After Valentian I, the Roman Empire split into East and West again. "the hand of the LORD": the Council was convened by Theodosius, Emperor of Eastern Rome; "has gone out against me": the Council upheld the Nicean Creed against all possible alternative theological interpretations of the nature and relationship of Father, Son, Spirit. Most importantly, the decisions of the Synod of Tyre with respect to Arius were reversed. New clerical rulings were also added: "will you refrain yourself from having husbands?": the power of bishops is set within fixed boundaries; "for it grieves me very much": the Bishop of Rome is designated to be first, ahead of the Bishop of Constantinople, in 'honor and dignity'. And many other inventions; the beginning of an endless spew out of man's mind from clerics.

This Council planted the evil seed that would sprout endless feuds between the Bishop of Rome and the Bishop of Constantinople. The <u>insistence on the primacy of Rome could never unite the Clergy around a central See</u>. Two women can never peacefully have the same husband.

#### mark h lane

#### **Ruth 1 v 14**

"At this they wept again.

Then Orpah kissed her mother-in-law,

but Ruth clung to her"

"at this they wept again": the insertion of Clergy over the Body of Christ usurps Jesus' Lordship and will always and produce endless agony and pain among the saints. "Orpah kissed her mother-in-law": in spite of official doctrines, the remnant of West Christians inclined towards Arianism; and "Ruth clung to her": the remnant of East Christians were mesmerized by Iconography. Both daughters-in-law of Naomi had besetting sins inherited from Roman paganism; neither was a model of genuine Christianity.

#### **Ruth 1 v 15**

"And she said 'Look

your sister-in-law has gone back

to her people and to her gods;

return after your sister-in-law"

"Look your sister-in-law has gone back": Clerical Religion results in the narrowest possible field of vision and too fine a definition of truth and error; Differences on points of theology are expanded in the Clerical mind into wild heresies, which cause religious over-reactions, and blanket anathemas; "to her people and to her gods": perspective is skewed by pre-existing ethnic prejudices of people far away; "return after your sister-in-law": what begins as righteous indignation fans personal views into fanaticism; dogmatic viewpoints are further entrenched, parties are more irreconcilable.

Jesus commanded love among believers; Jesus never commanded doctrinal purity. Jesus said 'you shall know the tree by its fruit'. What has been the result of Clerical Religion down through the ages? Wars, persecutions, and divine punishments. What was the drive for Clerical Religion in the first place? To resolve theological differences among believers; to exalt teachers over us to set us straight. Jesus never talked this way. He said in the Sermon on the Mount: 'Do not judge, or you too will be judged.' 'How can you say to your brother 'let me take that spec out of your eye' and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye.'

Jesus also warned his followers of the snares of religion: 'When you give to the needy, do not announce it in the synagogues and on the streets to be honored by men.'; "Then your Father who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.'; 'Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth... but store up treasures in heaven... for where your treasure is there will be your heart also'.

Jesus warned his followers against venerating temples: 'Jesus left the temple and was walking away when his disciples came up to him to call his attention to its buildings. 'Do you see all these things?' he asked. 'I tell you the truth, not one stone here will be left on another; every one will be thrown down.'

#### **Ruth 1 v 16**

"But Ruth replied, 'Don't urge me to leave you or to turn back from you. Where you go, I will go. And Where you stay, I will stay.

Your people will be my people and your god will be my god."

"But Ruth replied": when the Church inevitably split in 1054 AD, Slavic Orthodoxy inherited **Ruth**'s spirit of transfixion with icons and devotion to ancestors (Church Fathers). The **Ottomans** conquered Byzantium in 1453 AD. "where you go, I will go": Eastern Orthodoxy migrated to **Kiev** and then to **Moscow**; "where you stay I will stay": it grew under the protection of Tsars, never to move again. "your god will be my god": As we discussed in Ruth 1 v 10 (page 13): the homeland of Ruth, East Europe, will be the first to forsake Christianity altogether and revert to paganism. The author believes the migration of **Ruth** to Moscow left Europe to **Orpah**, the harlot daughter (**Ruth 1 v 4**: page 9). It is not too far a stretch to believe the **Great Harlot** in the Book of Revelations is the fulfilment of Orpah. "your people will be my people": the Beast will come and devour the Catholic Church and the Orthodox Church in Europe. Orpah will willingly sleep with him. Clerical Religion will remain in Moscow, and will disappear only with the fall of Russia. (See our paper: Nahum): Ruth clings to Naomi to the end!

A defining characteristic of the **Beast** is his war-likeness: "who is able to make war against him?" (Rev. 13 v 4). Daniel provides another characteristic: "He shall regard neither the God of his fathers, nor the desire of women, nor any god; for he shall exalt himself above them all. But in their place he will honor a god of fortresses; and a god which his fathers did not know..." (Daniel 11 v 37-38).

The **Beast** can not be of the **Julius** blood-line from Troy: they honor the "god of their Fathers". As much as Roman Emperors behaved like beasts they worshipped Roman pagan gods with complete devotion.

The **Beast** might have arisen from German pagans, the **Viking** blood-lines, who were very warlike. The Templars worshiped a "**god of fortresses**", and were based in Western Europe, the territory of **Orpah**, but they lusted after a woman, the Holy Land, pledged to another, the **Benjamin** generation of Jews (see Here).

Hitler was a candidate for the **Beast**: "who is able to make war against him?". A member of the Thule Society he was a German pagan, champion of Viking blood-lines, Aryans. Although he was genocidal to Jews, he was tolerant of the Roman Clerical Religions: an immediate disqualification. Also, he lusted after **Ruth** not **Orpah**.

The **Beast** could never come from Tsarist Russia (or Putin's Russia) – the descendants of **Ruth** – who regard the "god of their Fathers" – Clerical Religion – with pure devotion to the end.

Stalin was a candidate of the **Beast**, who "shall regard neither... any god". But Stalin was in the wrong place – **Orpah** was not his harlot. Even after WWII Stalin did not control any area of **Orpah** – he only inherited East Europe – the area of **Ruth**. Also, although he persecuted the Russian Orthodox he permitted Clerical Religion to survive. This the **Beast** will never do: there will be no survivors of Clerical Religion under his reign.

In **381 AD Theodosius** began <u>a persecution of remnant Roman paganism</u>. He prohibited divination on pain of death, criminalized magistrates who did not enforce laws against polytheism, broke up pagan associations and tolerated attacks on Roman temples. He abolished Roman religious holidays, banned blood sacrifices, closed Roman temples, and disbanded the Vestal Virgins. The practice of witchcraft was punished. **Theodosius** refused to restore the Altar of Victory in the Senate House, as asked by non-Christian senators.

This was the shaming of **Naomi** which is referred to in the following verse:

#### **Ruth 1 v 17**

"'Where you die, I will die;
and there I will be buried.

May the LORD deal with me
be it ever so severely
if any thing but death separates
you and me.'"

"Where you die, I will die": Ruth will not be the last girl standing. The Orthodox religion will perish from the face of the earth. "there I will be buried": due to the sin of pagan worship the devotees of Orthodox religion will not be raised from the dead at the Rapture; they have committed the sin of the Garden of Eden, making alliance with the Snake [Satan] in the Tree [pagan religious system], whose punishment is death. "may the LORD deal with me": they will be resurrected to give account to the Lord Jesus at the White Throne judgment. "be it ever so severely": eternal damnation. "if any thing but death separates you and me": the spirits who inspired Roman pagan religion will be waiting in Hell to greet them.

Reader, do you really think my interpretation of this verse is extreme? Listen to the words of **Ruth**. She is clinging to **Naomi**. Her life, her love, her loyalty is to the spirits of Roman paganism. She wants to die the death of Roman pagans. God will grant her wish. <u>Venerate the saints and pray to them at your peril!</u>

People do not enter Heaven who believe there is some other way of salvation beside the blood of Jesus Christ alone. The death of Christ for payment for sin renders religion worthless: the veil in the temple was torn from top to bottom. No more temple religion for Christians! If you are a Christian who worships in a temple, where is your faith? And if you have no faith, on what basis to you expect the Almighty to save you?<sup>10</sup>

Causing Christians to submit to religious rites is directly opposed to the Gospel of Christ. 11

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Ephesians 2:8-9

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Galatians 4:9-20 & 5:1-4 'Law' refers to the Law of Moses, or any religious decree imposed by Clergy upon believers.

What if born-again believers are seduced by religion? Alas, it is too common. But those who love Jesus Christ above all will find religion misery. They stay in there because the deception is strong or their faith is weak. They have received the gift of eternal life by faith and will enter Heaven, because faith in Jesus' blood was applied to their hearts<sup>12</sup>. But there will be great loss of eternal rewards, because they denied the Cross: publicly proclaiming by their actions it is necessary to add religious works to the merit of Christ's blood.

#### **Ruth 1 v 18**

"When she saw
she was determined
to go with her,
she spoke
[secret guidance]
to her."

Naomi has a secret treasured in her heart since all the way back to the Garden. The hope of a Son to be her Husband: a one-world ruler like Adam who will crush all other kingdoms and religions in his path; and install Naomi to be his Queen — one-world religion — and also co-regent: equal in power to the One-world ruler. "she spoke [secret guidance] to her": The persecution of Theodosius forced Roman pagans permanently underground. Where did they find a home? They buried themselves within the architecture of the Official Church and preserved ancient wisdom incognito. The wrath of Theodosius could not touch them there. Among the Clergy they found old friends, shared forbidden ideas, and kept the flame of paganism burning in new temples: a scheme to preserve the idolatry of Naomi was their first priority.

This mosaic in the Hagia Sophia cathedral in Constantinople pictures Mary with the Christ child. Emperor **Constantine** offers her a fortress. Emperor **Justinian** offers her a holy temple. See how **Mary** has her hand over the shoulder of the Christ child, indicating her authority. Thus, the Lord Jesus is diminished to a babe and the Holy Mother (Naomi) is magnified as eternal life giver (fruit of the Tree); 'Sophia' means Wisdom! O!



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> 2 Timothy 2 v 11-13

### **Ruth 1 v 19**

"So the two women went on until they came to Bethlehem.
When they arrived in Bethlehem the whole town was stirred because of them and the women exclaimed

'Can this be Naomi?'"

431 AD Council of Ephesus "two women": cabal of secretly pagan bishops within the Church; "Bethlehem": ancient home of the Kings of Troy ~ east side of the Dardanelles waterway ~ district of Troas: City of Ephesus ~ famous for the Temple of Artemis (Diana) ~ goddess who Roman pagans believe gave birth to Aeneas, forefather of Roman Emperors, including Julius Caesar and Constantine; "whole town was stirred": spirits of ancient Roman religion were excited in anticipation; "women exclaimed": rest of the bishops were shocked at the daring new doctrine; "Can this be Naomi?": the sorority of bishops debated what honors and titles and worship ought to be accorded the most venerated saint of them all ~ the Virgin Mary!





(Left) **Our Lady of Ephesus**: statuette of the **Goddess Artemis** (**Diana**). Note the many breasts. Goddess of Fertility: the same of Canaan's shame. Note the tall head-dress: her authority is to the heavens;

(Right) **Temple of Goddess Artemis**: (a recreation) note the pillars of wisdom and the pantheon of gods engraved in the lintel and super-face. Note also the steps, forbidden by the LORD to the Israelites, symbolic of hidden knowledge only adepts with access to the inner sanctums share in whispers. One of the seven wonders of the ancient world. **Artemis** was the goddess of the Moon (see flag of Turkey!).

#### Ruth 1 v 20

"'Don't call me Naomi'
she told them.

'Call me Mara' because the
LORD Almighty has made
my life very bitter."

Magic at work! "Call me Mara": Naomi (Eve) transforms herself into Mary. "very bitter": the word 'Mary' is a Greek alliteration of the Hebrew word 'Mariam' (the prophetess who opposed Moses) which is derived from the Hebrew 'Marar' which means 'bitter'. At the Council of Ephesus the [secretly pagan] bishops granted the Virgin Mary the title 'Mother of God'. Such a title is blasphemy. But the suggestion Jesus Christ was a god-man birthed by a goddess perfectly aligns with the pagan view of the universe. The worship of Mary, with saints chanting rosaries, praying for favors, and building cathedrals to her, permitted pagans to continue their ancient practices within the church uninterrupted for centuries.

#### Ruth 1 v 21

"I went away full, but the
LORD has brought me back
empty. Why call me Naomi?
The LORD has afflicted me;
the Almighty has brought
misfortune on me."

Was Mary bitter after her experiences? Was that her spiritual legacy? "I went away full": Mary obeyed the call of God, and miraculously was full of child by incarnation (not conception); "brought me back empty": Jesus died on the Cross. Another godman meets a tragic end. It would be the pagan perspective, but was that Mary's perspective? Did Mary lose her faith? There is no record in the Gospels of Christ appearing in his resurrected body to Mary, his mother. "The LORD has afflicted me": There is a record in the Gospels of Jesus spurning Mary: "My mother and brothers are those who hear God's word and put it into practice" (Luke 8 v 21); and Jesus rebuking Mary's attempts to guide him: "Woman, why do you involve me?" (John 2 v 4). Did Jesus renounce his relationship to Mary at the Cross when he appointed John to be her son, and Mary to be the mother of John? (John 19 v 26-27). Was all legal relationship to **Mary** severed thereby? **Mary** was initially esteemed by the apostles; present in the Upper Room in Acts 2; but never mentioned again in Acts. Could it be she rejected Peter's preaching at Pentecost? "misfortune on me": If so, then Mary became the arch-type of rebellion to the Gospel; fulfilling the spirit of **Miriam**, her namesake, who resisted **Moses** because he took a Cushite wife (Num 12 v 1) and was plagued for it (Num 12 v 10).

#### Ruth 1 v 22

"So Naomi returned from Moab
accompanied by Ruth the
Moabitess, her daughter-in-law,
arriving in Bethlehem as the
barley harvest was beginning."

"So Naomi returned": <a href="the-victory">the-victory</a> of Constantine over the Roman pagan generals and legions; and the victory of Theodosius over the Roman pagan priests and temples <a href="was squandered">was squandered</a>; "accompanied by Ruth": deceitful Clergy posing as Christians, but in their hearts dedicated to pagan beliefs, were in the camp; "Mobitess": and carrying pagan aspirations also, to wit, the elevation of the female goddess Chemosh of Moab (same as Artemis; same as Mary, Mother of God); "arriving in Bethlehem": staking claim to the pagan holy ground at Ephesus; "as the barley harvest was beginning" henceforth, the blasphemous worship of Mary, Mother of God, would reap a harvest of souls bound to Hell, having been prevented from receiving the Gospel truth; not recognizing the person of Jesus Christ and his Sacrifice on the Cross; but attributing holiness to Jesus, not on his merits, but by being born of Mary! O!