



RUTH RECAP

Ruth – historical narrative told with theological perspective

Historical narrative

- Focus on restoration of Naomi
- From Bethlehem, married to Elimelech, 2 sons
- Family moves to Moab due to famine
- Elimelech dies
- Sons marry Moabite women – Orpah and Ruth
- After 10 yrs in Moab sons die childless



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Ruth – historical narrative told with theological perspective

Theological perspective

- God's preservation of line of David- Ruth is David's great-grandmother
- Love – hesed; commitment to welfare of another even if it is costly; parallel to agape
- Providence – God's active and ongoing sustaining, governing, and purposeful care of His creation



RUTH RECAP

Special Providence – God’s active and ongoing sustaining, governing, and purposeful care of His people

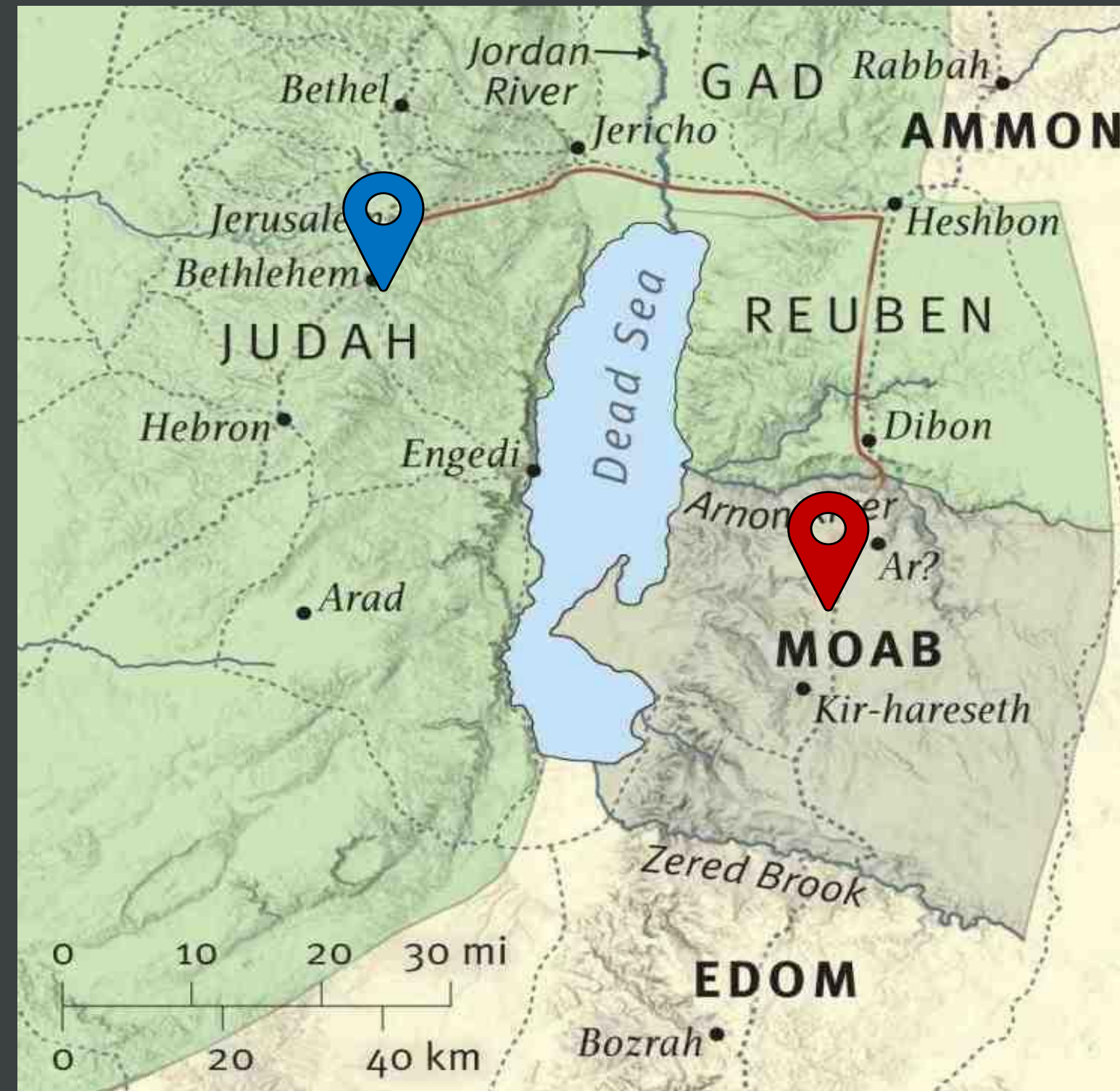
- Miracles – obviously supernatural intervention of God in our lives; God sustaining Moses on Mt Sinai
- Providence – God’s normal activity in our lives; see with eyes of faith; God working along with or through choices people make, circumstances, and events; God sustaining us daily

Special Providence – God’s active and ongoing sustaining, governing, and purposeful care of His people

- Not Deism – God’s care is active and ongoing
- Not Determinism – God cooperates with human freedom

Video Clip on
God’s Providence:





STONEBRIDGE
CHURCH



RUTH 1:6-22

Verses 8-10: Naomi urges
Orpah/Ruth to return to Moab

Blessing – May the Lord show you
kindness as you’ve shown me

- Kindness = hesed

Prayer – may you find rest in home
of another husband

- Naomi’s perspective: hope =
remarriage



RUTH 1:6-22

Verses 8-10: Love on display – each looking to the welfare of the other even at personal cost

- Best for Naomi if Orpah/Ruth go to Bethlehem with her – more likely one of them will remarry than she will
- Best for Orpah/Ruth if they return to Moab – more likely they will remarry in Moab than in Bethlehem



RUTH 1:6-22

Verse 11-14: Naomi urges Orpah/Ruth to return to Moab more strongly

Naomi - nothing to offer Orpah/Ruth

- She is too old to remarry –at least 50; past childbearing age
- Unreasonable for Orpah/Ruth to wait on sons from her – they would then be past childbearing age; they are around 25 at present



RUTH 1:6-22

Verses 11-14: first glimpse into Naomi's heart regarding past 10 yrs

- Even if I thought there was still hope for me — sees no possibility of remarriage for herself
- Bitter — emotional response to a destructive, heart-crushing situation
- Naomi's situation is more bitter because she has slimmer chance of remarriage
- Lord has turned His hand against me — sees God as source of her tragedy

RUTH
1:6-22

Verses 11-14: Response of
Orpah/Ruth

Orpah turns back – not wrong;
actually the wise choice; contrast to
Ruth

Ruth clings to Naomi –
extraordinary display of love

- Cling – marriage word; used in
Gen 2.24 to describe
relationship of husband and
wife; to be joined in close,
ongoing relationship



RUTH 1:6-22

- Is there someone you are struggling to love?
- Is your life bitter?
- Are you bitter?
 - *Note – not same thing; one describes our circumstances (the Almighty has made my life bitter), the other describes our hearts (Don't call me Naomi, call me Mara)

RUTH
1:6-22

Living in the love of God

- Objectively revealed – God demonstrated His love for us in this, while we were still sinners Christ died for us.
- Subjectively revealed
 - Directly to our hearts
 - Through other people
 - Through personal-to-us experiences