

# The Book of Ruth

Ruth 1:19-2:2

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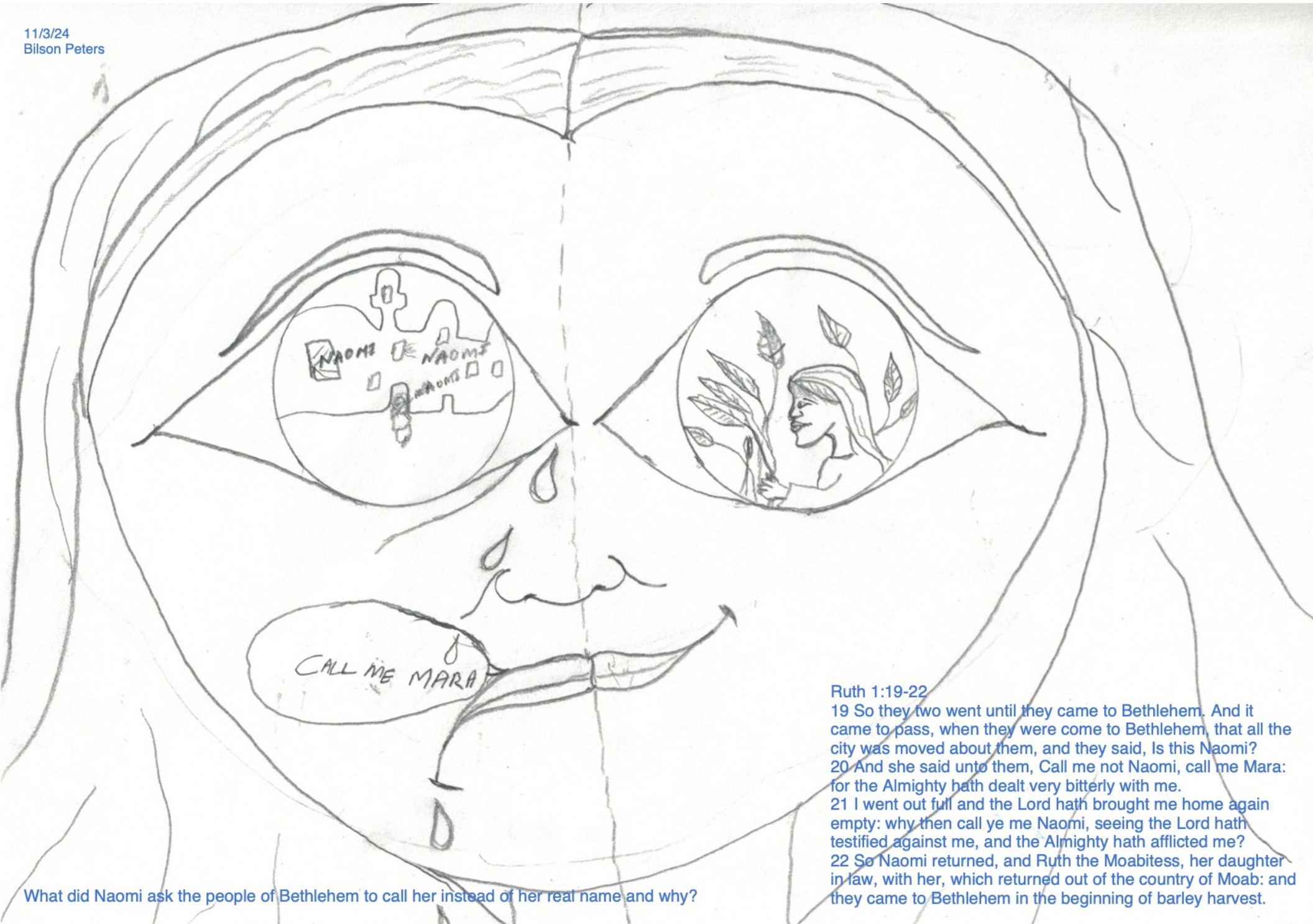
3:1-18, Seeking Permanent Security

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After Peter Lau, *NICOT* (2023)



What did Naomi ask the people of Bethlehem to call her instead of her real name and why?

Ruth 1:19-22

19 So they two went until they came to Bethlehem. And it came to pass, when they were come to Bethlehem, that all the city was moved about them, and they said, Is this Naomi?  
20 And she said unto them, Call me not Naomi, call me Mara: for the Almighty hath dealt very bitterly with me.  
21 I went out full and the Lord hath brought me home again empty: why then call ye me Naomi, seeing the Lord hath testified against me, and the Almighty hath afflicted me?  
22 So Naomi returned, and Ruth the Moabitess, her daughter in law, with her, which returned out of the country of Moab: and they came to Bethlehem in the beginning of barley harvest.

# Naomi's Complaints

Rut 1:13 the hand of the LORD is gone out against me.

Rut 1:20 call me Mara [bitter]: for **the Almighty** hath dealt very bitterly with me.

21 I went out full, and **the LORD** hath brought me home again empty:

why then call ye me Naomi, seeing **the LORD** hath testified against me,

and **the Almighty** hath afflicted me?

**1:21 the Almighty (שדי shadday H7706)**

Gen 17:1 And when Abram was ninety years old and nine, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said unto him, I am the **Almighty** God; walk before me, and be thou perfect.

**1:20 dealt bitterly with me**

Job 27:2 As God liveth, who hath taken away my judgment; and the Almighty, who hath **vexed [dealt bitterly with] my soul**

Isa 40:11 He shall feed his flock like a shepherd: he shall gather the lambs with his arm, and **carry them in his bosom**, and shall **gently** lead those that are with young.

**1:21 brought me home empty**

Rut 2:17 So she ... beat out that she had gleaned: and it was about an ephah of barley.

Rut 3:17 And she said, These six measures of barley gave he me; for he said to me, **Go not empty** unto thy mother in law.

**1:21 testified against me**

Isa 1:2 Hear, O heavens, and give ear, O earth: for the LORD hath spoken, I have nourished and brought up children, and they have rebelled against me.

Rom 8:33 **Who shall lay any thing** to the charge of God's elect? It is God that justifieth.

**1:21 afflicted me**

Ex. 5:22 And Moses returned unto the LORD, and said, Lord, wherefore hast thou so **evil entreated** this people?

# More Helpful References

## 1:22 the beginning of barley harvest

Exo 9:31 And the flax and the barley was smitten: for the **barley** was in the ear, and the flax was bolled. 32 But the **wheat** and the rie were not smitten: for they were not grown up.

Lev 23:5 In the **fourteenth** day of the first month at even is the LORD'S **passover**. 6 And on the **fifteenth** day of the same month is the **feast of unleavened bread** unto the LORD: **seven days** ye must eat unleavened bread. ... 10... ye shall bring a sheaf of the **firstfruits** of your harvest unto the priest: 11 And he shall wave the sheaf before the LORD, to be accepted for you: **on the morrow after the sabbath** the priest shall wave it.

## Nisan

| Sun                | Mon | Tues | Weds | Thrs            | Fri               | Sat                |
|--------------------|-----|------|------|-----------------|-------------------|--------------------|
|                    |     |      |      |                 | 1                 | <b>2</b>           |
| 3                  | 4   | 5    | 6    | 7               | 8                 | <b>9</b>           |
| 10                 | 11  | 12   | 12   | 14<br>Pass-over | 15<br>Un-leavened | <b>16</b><br>bread |
| 17<br>First Fruits | 18  | 19   | 20   | 21              | 22                | <b>23</b>          |
| 24                 | 25  | 26   | 27   | 28              | 29                | <b>30</b>          |

- Passover on Nisan 14
- Unleavened bread for next seven days
- There will be a Sabbath sometime in those seven days
- Firstfruits the morning after the Sabbath

1Co 5:7 Christ our passover is sacrificed for us:

1Co 15:20 But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits of them that slept.

# Lessons from Ruth 1

## **God works in mysterious ways.**

Rom 11:33 O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! **how unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out!**

## **Liberty can lead to worldliness.**

1Co 6:12 All things are lawful unto me, but all things are not expedient: all things are lawful for me, but **I will not be brought under the power of any.**

## **Treasure being with the Lord's people.**

Zec 8:23 Thus saith the LORD of hosts; In those days it shall come to pass, that ten men shall take hold out of all languages of the nations, even shall take hold of the skirt of him that is a Jew, saying, **We will go with you: for we have heard that God is with you.**

## **The Lord can use disaster to guide us.**

Psa 23:4 Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; **thy rod** and thy staff they comfort me.

## **Do not confuse God's direction with his wrath.**

Pro 3:11 My son, **despise not** the chastening of the LORD; **neither be weary** of his correction: 12 For **whom the LORD loveth** he correcteth; even as a father the son in whom he delighteth.

## **You can give spiritual help to your superiors.**

Psa 119:99 I have **more understanding than all my teachers**: for thy testimonies are my meditation.



# Helpful Parallels

## Describing Boaz

2:1a her husband's **acquaintance** מַיֻדָּע *meyudda*  
H4129

2:1b, 3 of Elimelech's **extended clan** מִשְׁפָּחָה *mishpaxa*  
H4940 (next level below tribe)

2:20 a **redeemer** גַּאֲל *ga'al* H1350

3:1 a **kinsman** מוֹדַעַת *moda(at)* H4130

## Gleaning (gathering)

Deu 24:19 When thou cuttest down thine harvest in thy field, and hast forgot a sheaf in the field, thou shalt not go again to fetch it: it shall be for the stranger, for the fatherless, and for the widow: that the LORD thy God may bless thee in all the work of thine hands. 20 When thou beatest thine olive tree, thou shalt not go over the boughs again: it shall be for the stranger, for the fatherless, and for the widow. 21 When thou gatherest the grapes of thy vineyard, thou shalt not glean it [עליו go over repeatedly] afterward: it shall be for the stranger, for the fatherless, and for the widow.

## Gleaning the Manna

Ex. 16:4 Then said the LORD unto Moses, Behold, I will rain bread from heaven for you; and the people shall go out and gather a certain rate every day, that I may prove them, whether they will walk in my law, or no. 5 And it shall come to pass, that on the sixth day they shall prepare that which they bring in; and it shall be twice as much as they gather daily. ...

(cf. Lv 19:9,10;23:22)