

THE BOKE OF RVTH.

THE ARGUMENT.

This boke is intituled after the name of Ruth: which is the principall persone spoken of in this treatise. Wherein also figuratively is set forth the state of the Church which is subiect to manifold afflictions, and yet at length God giveth good and ioyfull issue: teaching vs to abide with patience til God deliver vs out of troubles. Herein also is ascribed howe Iesus Christ, who according to the flesh ought to come of David, proceeded of Ruth, of whome the Lord Iesus did vouchesawe to come, notwithstanding she was a Moabite of base condicison, and a stranger from the people of God: declaring vnto vs thereby that the Gentiles shulde be sanctified by him and ioynd with his people, and that there shulde be but one shepsfolde, and one shepherde. And it semeth that this historie apperteineth to the time of the Iudges.

CHAP. I.

1 Elimélech goeth with his wife and childrē into the lād of Moab. 2 He and his sonnes dye. 3 Naomi and Ruth come to Beth-léhem.

^a Ebr. iudged.

^a In the land of Canaan. ^b In the tribe of Iudáh, which was also called Beth-léhé Ephrathah, because there was another cite so called in the tribe of Zebulun.

IN the time that the iudges ruled, there was a dearth in the ^a land, and a mā of Beth-léhem ^b Iudáh went for to sojourne in the cōtrei of Moáb, he, and his wife, and his two sonnes.

2 And the name of the mā was Elimélech, and the name of his wife, Naomi: and the names of his two sonnes, Mahlón, & Chilión, Ephrathites of Beth-léhem Iudáh: and when they came into the land of Moáb, they continued there.

3 Then Elimélech the housbād of Naomi dyed, & she remaīned with her two sonnes, 4 Which toke them wiues of the ^c Moabites: the ones name was Orpáh, and the name of the other Ruth: and they dwelled there about ten yeres.

^c By this wonderful prouidence of God Ruth became one of Gods housholde, of whome Christ came.

5 And Mahlón and Chilión dyed also bothe twaine: so the woman was left destitute of her two sonnes, & of her housbād.

6 ¶ Then she arose with her daughters in lawe, and returned from the countrey of Moáb: for she had heard say in the countrey of Moáb, that the Lord had ^d visited his people, and gūen them bread.

^d By sending them plentie againe.

7 Wherefore she departed out of the place where she was, and her two daughters in lawe with her, and they wēt on their way to returne vnto the land of Iudáh.

8 Thē Naomi said vnto her two daughters in lawe, Go, returne eche of you vnto her owne mothers house: for the Lord shewe fauour vnto you, as ye haue done with the dead, and with me.

9 The Lord grante you, that you may finde rest, ether of you in the house of her housbād. And when she kissed them, they list vp their voyce and wept.

^e Hereby it appeareth that Naomi by dwelling among idolaters was waxen colde in the true zeale of God, & rather hath respect to the ease of the body then to the comfort of the soule.

10 And they said vnto her, Surely we wil returne with thee vnto thy people.

11 But Naomi said, Turne againe, my daughters: for what cause wil you go with me: are there anie mo sonnes in my wom-

be, that they may be your housbands?

12 Turne againe, my daughters: go your way: for I am to olde to haue an housbād. if I shulde saie, I haue hope, & if I had an housbād this night: yea, if I had borne sonnes,

13 Wolde ye tary for them, til they were of age? wolde ye be differred for them from taking of housbands? nay my daughters: for it grieueth me ^e muche for your sakes, for the hād of the Lord is gone out against me.

^e Or, more then you.

14 Then they list vp their voyce, and wept againe, and Orpáh ^f kissed her mother in lawe, but Ruth abode stil with her.

^f When she toke leave & departed.

15 And Naomi said, Beholde, thy sifter in lawe is gone backe vnto her people & vnto her gods: returne thou after thy sifter in lawe.

^g No persuasions can prevail to turne the backe fro God, whom he hath chosen to be his.

16 And Ruth answered, Intreat me not to leaue thee, nor to departe from thee: for whither thou goest, I wil go: and where thou dwellest, I wil dwell: thy people shall be my people, and thy God my God.

17 Where thou dyest, wil I dye, and there wil I be buried. the Lord do so to me & more also, if ought but death departe thee & me.

18 ¶ When she sawe that she was stedfastly minded to go with her, she left speaking vnto her.

19 So they went bothe vntil they came to Beth-léhé: & whē they were come to Beth-léhem, it was ^h noised of them through all the cite, and they said, Is not this Naomi?

^h Whereby appereth that she was of a great familie & of good reputation.

20 And she answered thē, Call me not Naomi, but call me Mará: for the Almighty hath giuen me muche bitternes.

ⁱ Or, be justifid. ⁱⁱ Or, bitter.

21 I wēt out ful, & the Lord hath caused me to returne empty: why call ye me Naomi, seing the Lord hath hūbled me, & the Almighty hath broght me vnto aduersitie.

22 So Naomi returned and Ruth the Moabite her daughter in law with her, when she came out of the countrey of Moáb: & they came to Beth-léhem in the beginning of ⁱ barley haruest.

ⁱ which was in the month Nisan, that is to say the first part of March & parte of April.

CHAP. II.

Ruth gathereth corne in the fieldes of Boáz. 2 The gentleness of Boáz toward her.

1 Then Naomis housbād had a kinsman, one of great power of the familie of Elimélech, & his name was Boáz.

^a Bothe for vertue, and for riches and riches.

And

b This her hu
milite decla-
reth her great
affection to-
ward her mo-
ther in lawe,
for as muche
as she spareth
no painful dili-
gence to get
bothe their li-
mings.

2 And Ruth [¶] Moabiteſſe ſaid vnto Na-
omi, I pray thee, let me go to [¶] y field, & ^b ga-
ther eares of corne after hí, in whoſe ſight
I haue fauour. And ſhe ſaid vnto her, Go
my daughter.

3 ¶ And ſhe went, & came & gleaned in [¶] y
field after the reapers, & it came to paſſe,
that ſhe met [¶] w the portion of the field of
Bóaz, who was of [¶] y familie of Elimélech.

4 And beholde, Bóaz came from Beth-lé-
hem, and ſaid vnto the reapers, The Lord
be with you: & thei answered him, The
Lord bleſſe thee.

5 Thē ſaid Bóaz vnto his ſeruāt [¶] y was ap-
pointed ouer [¶] y reapers, Whoſe maid is this?

6 And the ſeruāt that was appointed ouer
the reapers, answered, and ſaid, It is the
Moabitith mayd, that came with Naomi
out of the countrey of Móab:

7 And ſhe ſaid vnto vs, I pray you, let me
glean and gather after the reapers amōg
the ſheaves: ſo ſhe came, and haſte conti-
nued from that time in the moorning vnto
now, ſaue [¶] y ſhe taried a litle in the houſe.

8 ¶ Then ſaid Bóaz vnto Ruth, Hearſt
thou, my daughter? go to none other field
to gather, nethei go from hence: but abide
here by my maids.

9 ¶ Let thine eyes be on the field that they
do reape, and go thou after the maids. Ha-
ue I not charged the ſeruants, that they
touch thee not? Moreouer when thou art
a thirſt, go vnto the veſſels and binke of
that which the ſeruants haue drawen.

10 Then ſhe fel on her face, and bowed her
ſe if to the ground, & ſaid vnto im, How
haue I found fauour in thine eyes, that [¶] y
ſhuldeſt knowe me, ſeing I am ^d a ſtrāger?

11 And Bóaz answered, and ſaid vnto her,
All is tolde and ſhewed me that [¶] y haſt
done vnto thy mother in law, ſince [¶] y death
of thine houſebād, and how thou haſt left
thy father and thy mother, and the land
where thou waſt borne, and art come vnto
a people [¶] w thou kneweſt not in time paſt.

12 The Lord recompence thy woike and a
ful reward be giuen thee of the Lord God
of Iſraél, vnder whoſe ^e wings thou art
come to truſt.

13 Then ſhe ſaid, Let me finde fauour in
thy ſight, my lord: for [¶] y haſt cōſorted me,
and ſpoken comfortably vnto thy maid,
thogh I be not like to one of thy maids.

14 And Bóaz ſaid vnto her, At [¶] y meale time
come thou hither, and eat of the bread, &
dip thy morſel in [¶] y vinegre. And ſhe ſate
beſide the reapers, and he reached her parched
corne: and ſhe did eat, and was ſuffi-
ſed, and [¶] left thereof.

15 ¶ And when the aroſ: to glean, Bóaz cō-
māded his ſeruants, ſaying, Lether gather
among [¶] y ſheaves, and do not rebuke her.

16 Alſo let fall ſome of the ſheaves for her,

& let it lie, that ſhe may gather it vp, and
rebuke her not.

17 So ſhe gleaned in the field vntil euening,
and ſhe threſhed that ſhe had gathered,
and it was about an ^e Ephāh of barley.

18 ¶ And ſhe toke it vp, & went into the ci-
tie, and her mother in lawe ſawe what ſhe
had gathered: alſo ſhe [¶] s toke forthe, and
gaue to her that which ſhe had reſerued,
when ſhe was ſufficed.

19 Then her mother in lawe ſaid vnto her,
Where haſt thou gleaned to day? & where
wroughteſt thou? bleſſed be he, that knewe
thee. And ſhe ſhewed her mother in lawe,
with whome ſhe had wrought, & ſaid, The
mans name with whome I wrought to day,
is Bóaz.

20 And Naomi ſaid vnto her daughter in
lawe, Bleſſed be he of the Lord: for he cea-
ſeth not to do good to the liuing and to
the ^h dead. Againe Naomi ſaid vnto her,
The mā is nere vnto vs, & of our affinitie.

21 And Ruth the Moabiteſſe ſaid, He ſaid
alſo certainly vnto me, Thou ſhalt be [¶] w
my ſeruāts, vntil they haue ended all mi-
ne harueſt.

22 ¶ And Naomi answered vnto Ruth her
daughter in lawe, It is beſt, my daughter,
that thou go out with his maids, that thei
mete thee not in another field.

23 Thē ſhe kept her by the maids of Bóaz,
to gather vnto the end of barley harueſt, &
of wheat harueſt, and [¶] dwelt with her mo-
ther in lawe.

CHAP. III.

1 Naomi giueth Ruth counſel. ſ She ſleepeth at Bóaz ſete.
2 He acknowledgeth him ſelſe to be her kinſeman.

3 ¶ Afterward Naomi her motaer in law
ſaid vnto her, My daughter, ſhal not
I ſeke ^a reſt for thee, that [¶] y maieſt proſper?

4 Now alſo is not Bóaz our kinſman, with
whoſe maids [¶] y waſt? beholde, he winow-
eth bari to night in the [¶] floore.

5 Waſh thy ſelſe therefore, & anoyn thee,
& put thy raiment vpō thee, and get thee
downe to [¶] y floore: let not [¶] y mā knowe
of thee, vntil he haue left eating & drinking.

6 And when he ſhal ſlepe, maike the place
where he layeth him downe, & go, & vn-
couer the place of his ſete, and lay thee
downe, & he ſhal tel thee what [¶] y ſhalt do.

7 And ſhe answered her, All that thou bid-
deſt me, I wil do.

8 ¶ So ſhe went downe vnto the floore, &
did according to all [¶] y her mother in lawe
bade her.

9 And when Bóaz had eaten, and dronké, &
cheared his heart, he went to lie downe at
the end of the heape of corne, & ſhe came
ſoftely, & vncouered the place of his ſete,
& lay downe.

10 And at midnight the man was aſiaied [¶] &
caught holde: & lo, a womā lay at his ſete.

^c Or, certaine
handſuls.

^e That is, Ta-
ke hede in
what field
they do reape

^d Euen of the
Moabites, [¶] w
are enemies
to Gods peo-
ple..

^f Signifying [¶] y
ſhe ſhal neuer
want any thing
if ſhe put her
truſt in God &
liue vnder
his protecciō.

^h Which ſhe
brought home
to her mother
in lawe

^{End. 16. 17.}

^g To wit, of
her baggs, as is
in the Chaldee
texte.

^h To my houſe
band & chil-
dre, whē they
were aliue, &
now to vs

ⁱ Or, ſell vpon
thee.

^o Or, returned to
her mother in
lawe.

^a Meaning, [¶] y
the woldc pro-
uide her of an
houſe band, [¶] w
whome ſhe
might liue
quietly.
[¶] Or, in the barn-
e
[¶] b Bóaz, nor
et any other

^c That is, he [¶] d
reſtrained him
ſelſe among his
ſeruants

^o Or, turned him
ſelſe from one
ſide to another.

Bóaz.

Ruth.

Obéd. Iſhái.

9 Then he ſaid, Who art thou? And ſhe answered, I am Ruth thine hádmaide: ſpread therefore the wing of thy garment ouer thine hádmaid: for thou art the kiſeman.

10 Then ſaid he, Blessed be thou of the Lord, my daughter: y^e haſt^d ſhewed more goodnes in the latter end, then at the beginning, in as muche as thou ſolowedſt not yong men, were they poore or riche.

11 And now, my daughter, feare not: I wil do to thee all that thou requireſt: for all the citie of my people doeth knowe, that thou art a vertuous woman.

12 And now, it is true that I am thy kiſman, howbeit there is a kiſeman nearer then I.

13 Tary to night, & when morning is come, if he^e wil do the ducerie of a kiſeman vnto thee, wel, let him do the kiſmans ducerie: but if he wil not do the kiſmans parte, then wil I do the ducerie of a kiſmā, as y^e Lord liueth: ſlepe vntil the morning.

14 ¶ And ſhe lay at his fete vntil the morning: & ſhe aroſe before one colde knowe another: for he ſaid, Let no man knowe, that a woman came in to the floore.

15 Alſo he ſaid, bring the^e ſhere that thou haſt vpon thee, and holde it. And when ſhe helde it, he meafured ſix meafures of barley, and laied them on her, & went into the citie.

16 And whē ſhe came to her mother in law, ſhe ſaid, ¶ Who art y^e, my daughter? And ſhe tolde her all y^e the mā had done to her.

17 And ſaid, Theſe ſix meafures of barley gaue he me: for he ſaid to me, Thou ſhalt not come empty vnto thy mother in lawe.

18 Then ſaid ſhe, My daughter, ſit ſtil, vntil thou knowe how the thing wil fall: for the man wil not be in reſt, vntil he haſt finiſhed the matter this ſame day.

CHAP. IIIII.

2 Bóaz ſpeaketh to Ruths next kiſeman touching her marriage. 7 The ancient cuſtome in Iſraél. 10 Bóaz marryeth Ruth of whom he begetteth Obéd. 18 The generation of Phárez.

1 Then went Bóaz vp to the^a gate, and ſate there, and beholde, the kiſeman, of whome Bóaz had ſpoken, came by: and he ſaid, ^b Ho, ſuche one, come, ſit downe here. And he turned, and ſate downe.

2 Then he toke ten men of the Elders of y^e citie, & ſaid, Sit ye downe here. And they ſate downe.

3 And he ſaid vnto y^e kiſman, Naomé, that is come againe out of y^e cōtre¹ of Moáb, wil ſel a parcel of lād, which was our brother Elimélechs.

4 And I thought to aduertife thee, ſaying, Bye it before the^e aſſiſtans, and before the Elders of my people. If thou wilt redeme it, redeme it: but if thou wilt not redeme it, tel me: for I knowe that there is no-

ne^e beſides thee to redeme it, & I am after thee. Then he answered, I wil redeme it.

5 Then ſaid Bóaz, What day thou byeſt y^e field of the hand of Naomé, thou muſt alſo bye it of Ruth y^e Moabiteſſe the wife of the dead, to ſterre vp the name of the dead, vpon his^d inheritance.

6 And the kiſman answered, I can not redeme it, leſt I deſtroy mine owne inheritance: redeme my right to thee, for I cā not redeme it.

7 Now this was the maner beforetime in Iſraél, concerning redeming and chāging, for to ſtabliſh all things: a man did plucke of his ſhooe, and gaue it his neighbour, and this was a ſure^e witnes in Iſraél.

8 Therefore the kiſman ſaid to Bóaz, Bye it for thee: and he drue of his ſhooe.

9 And Bóaz ſaid vnto the Elders and vnto all the people, Ye are witneſſes this day, that I haue boght all y^e was Elimélechs, and all that was Chilion & Mahlóns, of the hand of Naomé.

10 And moreover, Ruth the Moabiteſſe the wife of Mahlón, haue I boght to be my wife, to ſterre vp the name of y^e dead vpon his inheritance, and that the name of the dead be not put out from among his brethren, and from the gate of his^f place: ye are witneſſes this day.

11 And all the people that were in the gate, & the Elders ſaid, We are witneſſes: the Lord make the wife that cometh into thine houſe, like Rahél and like Leáh, which twaine did buyld the houſe of Iſraél: and that thou maiest do worthely in ^g Ephráthah, and be famous in Beth-léhem.

12 And that thine houſe be like y^e houſe of Phárez (*whome Thamár bare vnto Iudáh) of the ſede which the Lord ſhal giue thee of this yong woman.

13 ¶ So Bóaz toke Ruth, and ſhe was his wife: and when he went in vnto her, the Lord gaue, that ſhe conceiued, and bare a ſonne.

14 And the women ſaid vnto Naomé, Blessed be y^e Lord, which hath not left thee this day without a kiſman, & ^h his name ſhal be continued in Iſraél.

15 And this ſhal bring thy life againe, and cheriſh thine olde age: for thy daughter in lawe which loueth thee, hath borne vnto him, and ſhe is better to thee thenⁱ ſeuen ſonnes.

16 And Naomé toke the childe, and layed it in her lap, and became nource vnto it.

17 And the women her neighbours gaue it a name, ſaying, There is a childe borne to Naomé, and called the name thereof Obéd: the ſame was the father of Iſhái, the father of Dauid.

^c For thou art the next of y^e kane.

^d That his inheritance might beare his name that is dead.

^e That he had reſigned his rights, Deut. 25:9.

^f Or, of y^e citie where he remained.

^g Ephráthah & Beth-léhem are bothe one.

^h He ſhal leaue a continué poſteritie.

ⁱ Meaning, many ſonnes.

^d Thou ſhew-est thy ſelfe frō time to time more vertuous.

^e If he wil make thee to be his wife by y^e title of aſſiſtance, according to Gods law, Deut. 25:5.

^f Or, manſel.

^f Perceyuing by her coming home, that he had not taken her to his wife, ſhe was aſtoniſhed.

^a Which was y^e place of iudgement.

^b The Hebrews here vie two wordes which haue no propre ſignification, but ſerue to note a certaine perſone: as we ſay, ho, ſyrray, or ho, ſuche one.

^g Or, inhabitāts.

2. *Chro* 2, 4.
mat. 1, 3
 k This genealogie is brought in to p^rue that Dauid by successiō came of the house of Iudáh.

- 18 ¶ These now are the generacions of Nahshón begate Salmáh,
 * k Phárez: Phárez begate Hezrón,
 19 And Hezrón begate Ram, & Ram begate Amminadáb,
 20 And Amminadáb begate Nahshón, and
 21 And Salmón begate Bóaz, and Bóaz begate Obéd,
 22 And Obéd begate Ishái, and Ishái begate Dauid.

THE FIRST BOKE OF Samuél.

THE ARGUMENT.

According as God had ordeined *Deut.* 17, 14. that when the Israelites shoulde be in the land of Canaan, he wolde appoint them a King: so here in this first boke of Samuel is declared the state of this people vnder their first King Saúl, who not content with that ordre, which God had for a time appointed for the gouernement of his Church, demanded a King, to the intent that might be as other nacions & in a greater assurance as they thought: not because they might the better thereby serue God, as being vnder the safeguarde of him, which did represent Iesus Christ the true deliuerer: therefore he gaue them a tyrant and an hypocrite to rule ouer them, that they might learne, that the persone of a King is not sufficient to defend them, except God by his power preferue and kepe them. And therefore he punisheth the ingratitude of his people & sendeth the continual warres bothe at home and abroad. And because Saúl, whome of nothing God had preferred to the honour of a King, did not acknowledge Gods mercie to warde him, but rather disobeyed the worde of God and was not zealous of his glorie, he was by the voyce of God put downe from his state, and Dauid the true figure of Mesiáh placed in his steade, whose patience, modestie, constancie, persecucion by open enemies, fained friends, and dissembling flatterers are left to the Church and to euery member of the same, as a paterne and example to beholde their state ad vocacion.

CHAP. I.

- 1 The genealogie of Elkanáh father of Samuél 2 His two wiues. 3 Hannáh was baren and prayed to the Lord. 15 Her answer to Eli. 20 Samuél is borne. 24 She doeth dedicate him to the Lord.

a There were two Ramaths, so that in this citie in mount Ephráim were Zophim: that is, the learned men and Prophets.



Here was a man of one of the two ^a Ramatháim Zophím, of mount Ephráim, whose name was Elkanáh the sonne of Ietohám, the sonne of Elihú, the sonne of Tóhu, the sonne of Zuph, an Ephráthite:

- 2 And he had two wiues: the name of one was Hannáh, and the name of the other Peninnáh: and Peninnáh had childrén, but Hannáh had no children.

Deut. 16, 16. 3 * And this man went vp out of his citie euery yere, to worship & to sacrifice vnto the Lord of hostes in ^b Shilóh, where were the two sonnes of Eli, Hophní and Phinehás Priests of the Lord.

For the Arke was there at that time.

- 4 And on a day, whē Elkanáh sacrificed, he gaue to Peninnáh his wife and to all her sonnes and daughters porcions,

c. Some read, a porcion with an heauy cheere.

- 5 But vnto Hânáh he gaue a worthy ^c porcion: for he loued Hannáh, and the Lord had made her baren.

- 6 ¶ And her aduersarie vexed her sore, for asmuche as she vpbraided her, because the Lord had made her baren.

- 7 (And so did he yere by yere) & as oft as she wēt vp to the house of ^ŷ Lord, thus she

vexed her, that she wept and did not eat.

- 8 Then said Elkanáh her housbād to her, Hannáh, why wepest thou? and why eatest thou not? & why is thine heart troubled? am not I better to thee then ten ^d sonnes?

d Let this suffice thee, that I loue thee no lesse, then if ^ŷ hadst many children.

- 9 So Hannáh rose vp after that they had eaten and dronke in Shilóh (and Eli the Priest sate vp ^o a stole by one of ^ŷ postes of the ^e Temple of the Lord)

e That is, of ^ŷ house, where the Arke was.

- 10 And she was troubled in her minde, and prayed vnto the Lord, and wept soie:

- 11 Also she vowed a vowe, & said, O Lord of hostes, if thou wilt loke on the trouble of thine handmayd, and remēber me, and not forget thine handmayd, but giue vnto thine handmayd a manchild, then I wil giue him vnto the Lord all the daies of his life, * and there shal no raser come vpon his head.

Nomb 6, 7. *iudg.* 13, 5.

- 12 And as she continued praying before the Lord, Eli marked her mouth.

- 13 For Hânáh spake in her heart: her lippes did moue onely, but her voyce was not heard: therefore Eli thought she had bene drunken:

- 14 And Eli said vnto her, How long wilt thou be dronké? Put away ^{thy} dronkēnes from thee.

Ebr thy wrouen.

- 15 Then Hannáh answered and said, Nay my lord, but I am a woman troubled in spirit: I haue drōke neither wine nor ^{it:} ^{og} drinke, but haue ^{*} powred out my soule before the Lord.

Ebr of an hard spirit.

Psalm 42, 2.