

"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." *Ruth 1:22 KJV*



God said, "Moab is my washpot." Moab was the incestuous son of Lot. The heritage of the Moabites was shrouded in evil. What's left in a washpot is the filth of the washing; all undesirable accumulations. Today we call them sinks, tubs, or washing machines. When done, we drain them into the sewer. A washpot has no drain and holds the unwanted sewage. Ruth, the Moabite came out of God's "washpot." Orpah, her sister-in-law stayed. Ruth "was stedfastly minded to go." She told Naomi, "Whither thou goest, I will go; and where thou lodgest, I will lodge: thy people shall be my people, and thy God my God." She believed the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob to be of more value than life itself and was determined to follow her faith. It was more than just love for Naomi, although I believe she had found a kindred spirit in her mother-in-law. Bitter hearted Naomi had nothing and was returning to nothing, yet Ruth followed, and ministered to Naomi. We see in Ruth the essence of faithful, God fearing selflessness. Ruth knew she would be an undesirable in her new home, but went anyway. She humbly joined the ranks of the poor and gleaned to provide for her family. God blessed her faithfulness with not only a rich new husband, but care for her mother-in-law as well. She came from "washpot" to wealth. "The steps of a good man are ordered by the LORD." Believers need to study the story of Ruth closely, for there we will find a distinct parallel to our deliverance from sin's gutter to the status of "Bride of Christ," from our sojourn in the washpot to our seat at the table. We can trace, through Ruth, the divine intervention required to redeem us from sin's poverty and grant us full privileges with the only begotten Son of God: "Heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ." If you live in Moab, you'll end penniless, in famine! The world cannot fill your emptiness, will take all you love, and leave you empty and bitter! It may appear from a Moabite perspective that following God will be an empty pursuit, but remember: Faith sees the unseen! Not one unbeliever can understand what every believer knows for a fact – God "is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him, but without faith, it is IMPOSSIBLE to please Him! Faith is the substance of things hoped for; the evidence of things not seen: Not of yourselves it is the gift of God and cometh by hearing...the Word of God." Think of the entirety of the universe from the smallest quark to the largest galaxy and beyond, to depths never sounded! Then think this; the Sovereign of Eternity who SPOKE it into being in six days, wants to be your friend! Wants to walk and talk with you forever! Wants to give you immortality with Himself! Loved you before you existed! Gave His own life that you might live! What on earth or beyond could ever persuade you to deny yourself this?? I tell you what will: YOU!

The Moabitess left her living,
And pursued, despite misgivings,
The God of Truth and righteousness,
Who filled her life with blessedness. –CGP

You've got to get out of Moab before you'll find the Provision God has waiting for you in the Promised Land of Victorious Peace. There's nothing good in Moab's "washpot." Quit trying to find it! "No good thing will He withhold from them which walk uprightly." Instead, believe and obey God's Word. God's Commands ARE His Blessings which if obeyed will lead us in the Path of Bountiful Provision!

"And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? For ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty." 2 Corinthians 6:16-18 KJV