



THAT TOY COWBOY

**Rick Myatt
May 11, 2014**

RUTH 1 (NIV)

1 In the days when the judges ruled, there was a famine in the land. So a man from Bethlehem in Judah, together with his wife and two sons, went to live for a while in the country of Moab. ² The man's name was Elimelek, his wife's name was 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. ³ Now Elimelek, Naomi's husband, died, and she was left with her two sons.

RUTH 1 (NIV)

They married Moabite women, one named Orpah and the other Ruth. After they had lived there about ten years, ⁵ both Mahlon and Kilion also died, and Naomi was left without her two sons and her husband. ⁶ When Naomi heard in Moab that the LORD had come to the aid of his people by providing food for them, she and her daughters-in-law prepared to return home from there.

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RUTH 1 (NIV)

- 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.
- ⁸ Then Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, “Go back, each of you, to your mother’s home. May the LORD show you kindness, as you have shown kindness to your dead husbands and to me. ⁹ May the LORD grant that each of you will find rest in the home of another husband.”
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RUTH 1 (NIV)

Then she kissed them goodbye and they wept aloud ¹⁰ and said to her, “We will go back with you to your people.” ¹¹ But Naomi said, “Return home, my daughters. Why would you come with me? Am I going to have any more sons, who could become your husbands? ¹² Return home, my daughters; I am too old to have another husband. Even if I thought there was still hope for me—even if I had a husband tonight and then gave birth to sons—

RUTH 1 (NIV)

- ¹³ would you wait until they grew up? Would you remain unmarried for them? No, my daughters. It is more bitter for me than for you, because the LORD's hand has turned against me!"
- ¹⁴ At this they wept aloud again. Then Orpah kissed her mother-in-law goodbye, but Ruth clung to her. ¹⁵ "Look," said Naomi, "your sister-in-law is going back to her people and her gods. Go back with her."

RUTH 1 (NIV)

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 my God. 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 even death separates you and me.” ¹⁸ When Naomi realized that Ruth was determined to go with her, she stopped urging her.

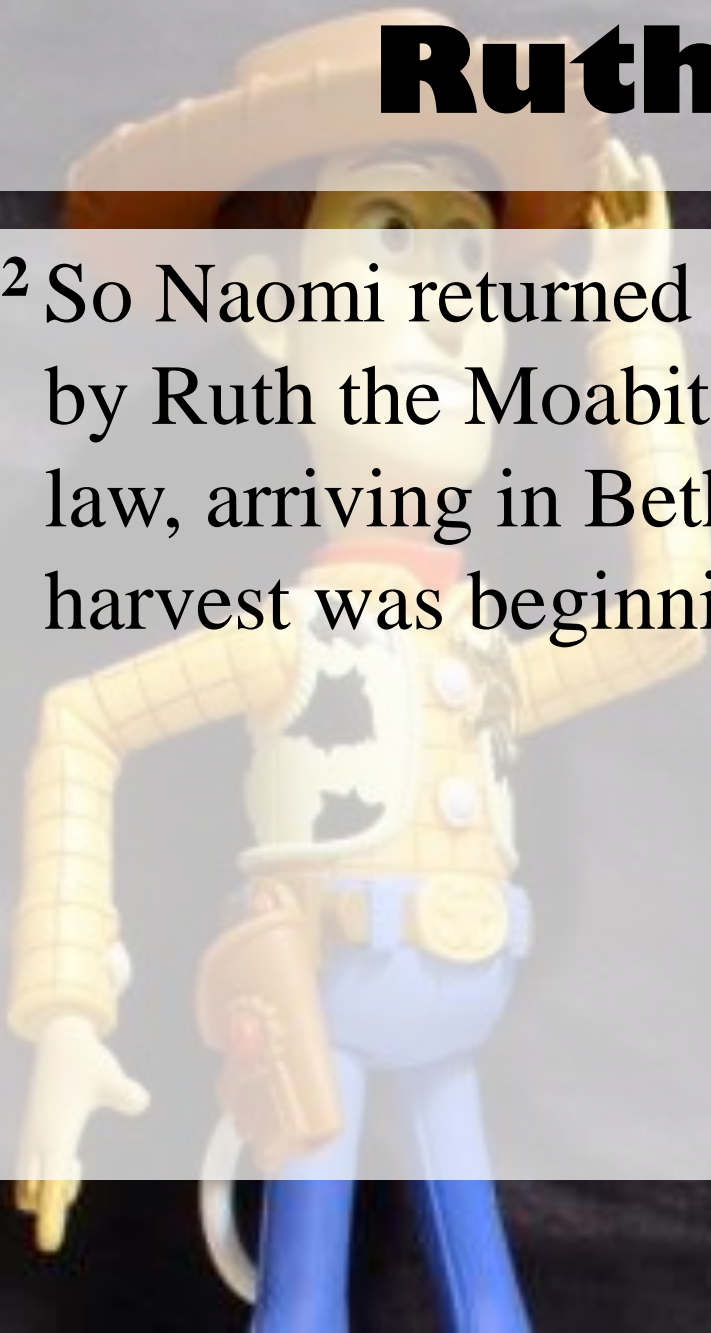
RUTH 1 (NIV)

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?”

²⁰ “Don’t call me Naomi,” she told them. “Call me Mara, because the Almighty has made my life very bitter. 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 upon me.”

Ruth 1 (NIV)

²² So Naomi returned from Moab accompanied by Ruth the Moabite, her daughter-in-law, arriving in Bethlehem as the barley harvest was beginning.



🔗 It Started as a Story of Disaster



Judges 6:3-4 (NIV)

³ Whenever the Israelites planted their crops, the Midianites, Amalekites and other eastern peoples invaded the country. ⁴ They camped on the land and ruined the crops all the way to Gaza and did not spare a living thing for Israel, neither sheep nor cattle nor donkeys.

🔗 It Started as a Story of Disaster



A 3D rendered image of Woody from the Toy Story franchise. He is wearing his signature yellow plaid shirt, blue jeans, and a brown cowboy hat. He has a confident smile and is holding the brim of his hat with his left hand. A brown holster with a lasso is visible on his right hip. The background is a soft, out-of-focus landscape with rolling hills under a pale sky.

🔗 **It Started as a Story of Disaster**

🔗 **It Became a Story of Devotion**

Implications



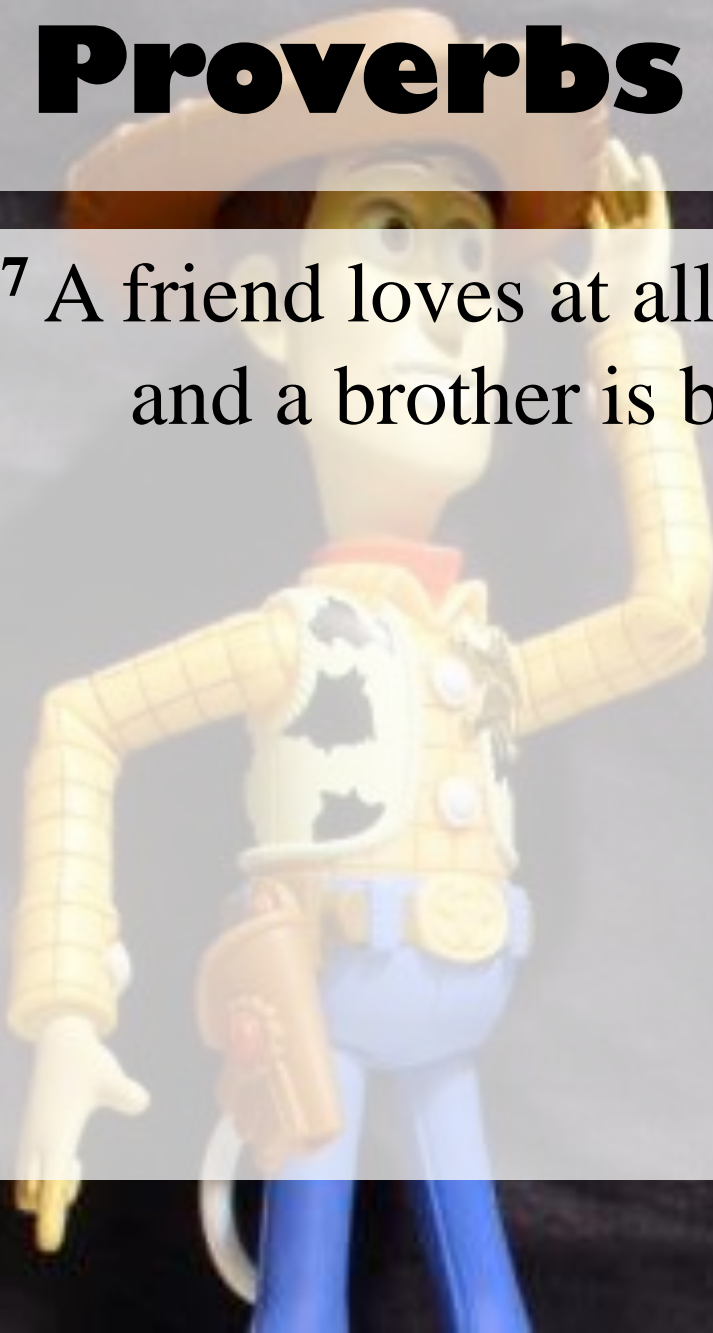
Implications

🔗 **Because of Her Love for Naomi**



Proverbs 17:17 (NIV)

¹⁷ A friend loves at all times,
and a brother is born for a time of adversity.



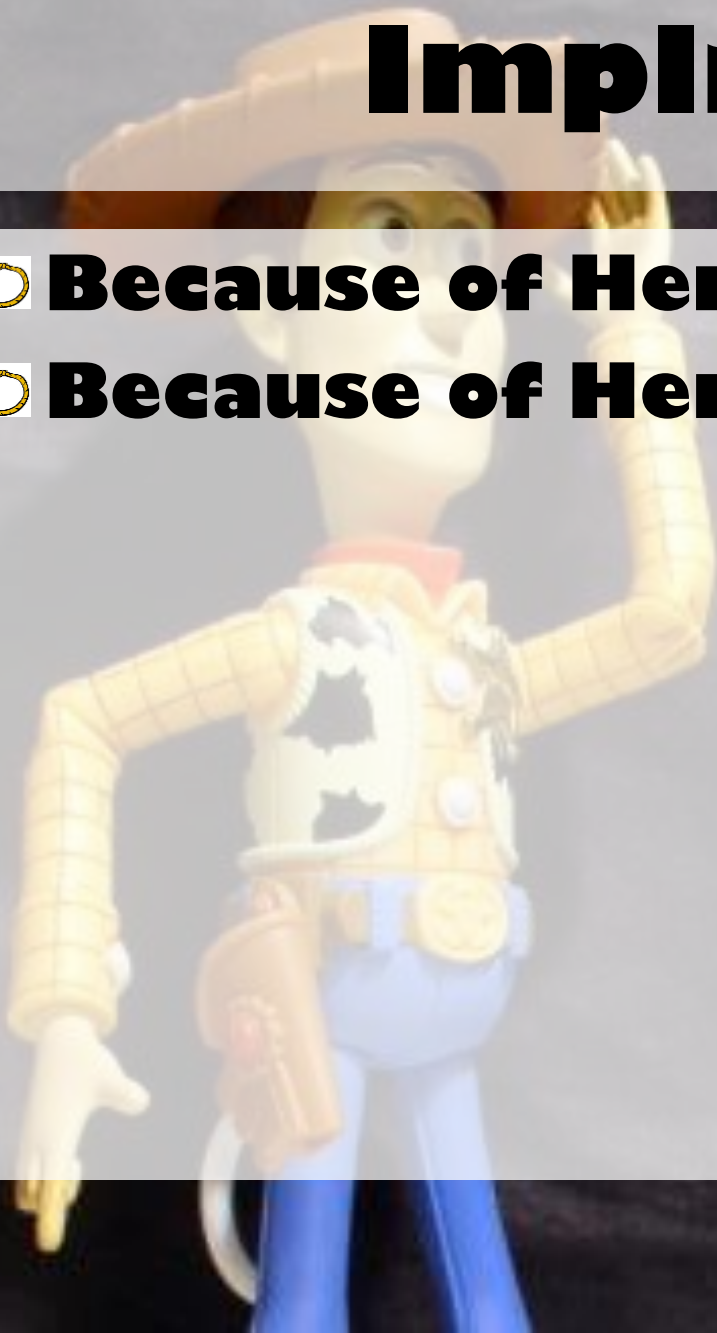
Implications

🔗 **Because of Her Love for Naomi**



Implications

- 🔗 **Because of Her Love for Naomi**
- 🔗 **Because of Her Love for God**



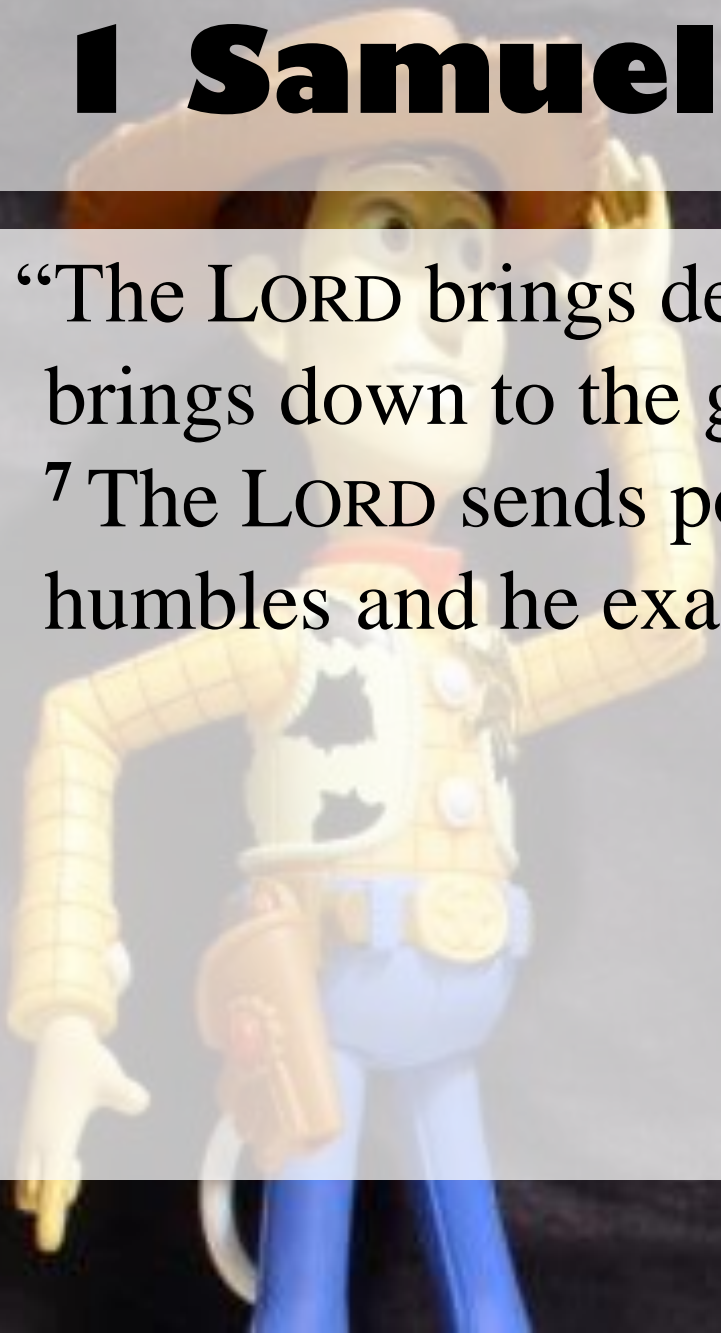
1 Chronicles 29:11 (NIV)

¹¹ Yours, LORD, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the majesty and the splendor, for everything in heaven and earth is yours. Yours, LORD, is the kingdom; you are exalted as head over all.

1 Samuel 2:6-7 (NIV)

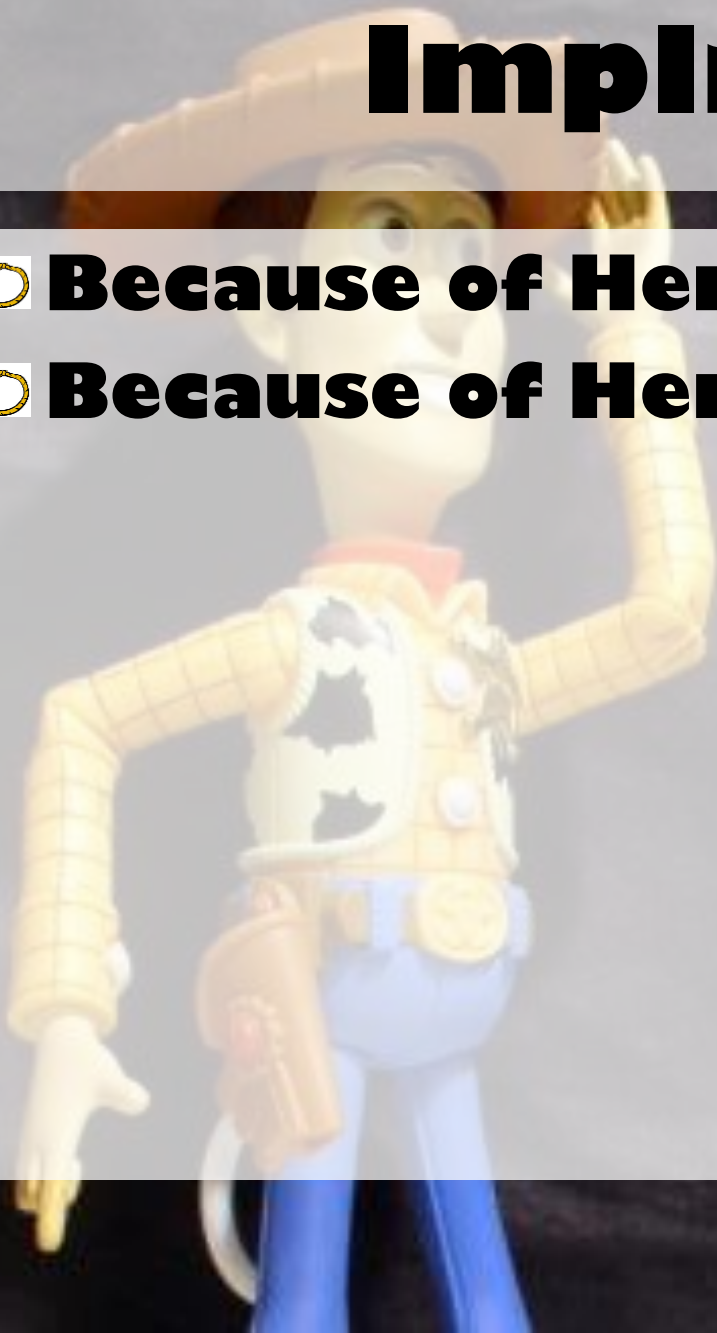
⁶ “The LORD brings death and makes alive; he brings down to the grave and raises up.

⁷ The LORD sends poverty and wealth; he humbles and he exalts.



Implications

- 🔗 **Because of Her Love for Naomi**
- 🔗 **Because of Her Love for God**



Application



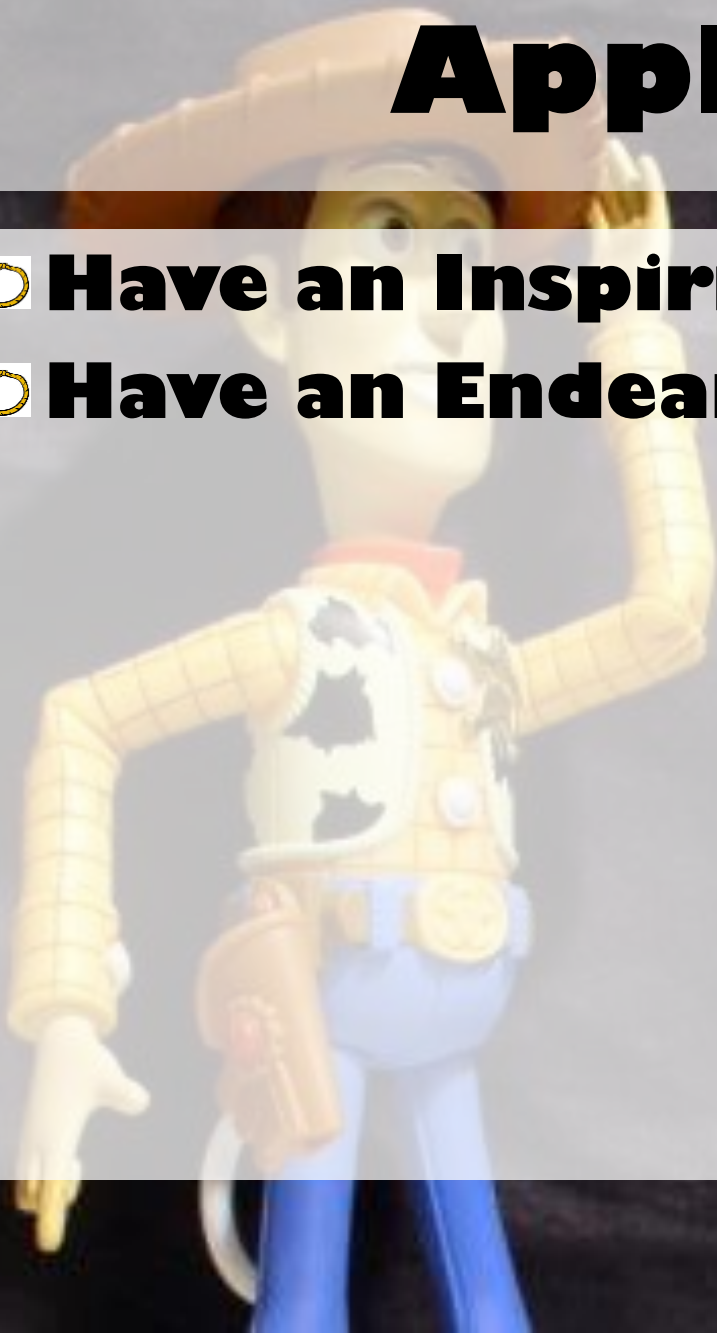
Application

🔗 **Have an Inspiring Faith**



Application

- 🔗 **Have an Inspiring Faith**
- 🔗 **Have an Endearing Loyalty**





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