

## **Ruth 1:15-16 (NET)**

**So Naomi said, “Look, your sister-in-law is returning to her people and to her god.**

**Follow your sister-in-law back home!”**

**[16] But Ruth replied, “Stop urging me to abandon you! For wherever you go, I will**

**go. Wherever you live, I will live. Your people will become my people, and your**

**God will become my God.**

## **Ruth 1:17-18 (NET)**

**Wherever you die, I will die - and there I will be buried. May the LORD punish me severely if I do not keep my promise! Only death will be able to separate me from you!” [18] When Naomi realized that Ruth was determined to go with her, she stopped trying to dissuade her.**

**A PURPOSEFUL Act  
of FAITH**

**Genesis 23:1-20**

By purchasing a burial place in Canaan,  
Abraham showed his unswerving  
**BELIEF** in God's **PROMISE** that  
Canaan **WAS** his new homeland. NIV Notes

# Some Themes in GENESIS:

- **DEATH** as a **RESULT** of sin
- The **PROMISE** of an **ANSWER** to sin
- **FAITHFULNESS** of God to sinful men

## Hebrews 11:13-15 (NIV)

...And they ADMITTED that they were **aliens and strangers on earth.** [14]

People who say such things show that **they are looking for a country of their own.** [15] If they had been thinking of the country they had left, **they would have had opportunity to return.**

This burial was the first sign of a  
**PERMANENT transition...**

In burying Sarah in Canaan Abraham  
**SEPARATED himself**  
from his ancestral home where his  
relatives still lived.

## Ruth 1:15-16 (NET)

**...“Stop urging me to abandon you!**

For wherever you go, I will go. Wherever you live, I will live. Your people will become my people, and your God will become my

God. **Wherever you die, I will die - and**

**THERE I WILL be BURIED.**

## Philippians 3:7-8 (JBP)

Yet every advantage that I had gained

**I considered LOST for Christ's sake.**

[8] Yes, and I look upon everything as loss compared with the **overwhelming GAIN of KNOWING** Jesus Christ my Lord. For his sake I did in actual fact suffer the loss of everything, but **I considered it USELESS RUBBISH compared with being able to win Christ.**

**Philippians 3:9 (JBP)**

For now my place is **IN HIM,**  
and I am **NOT dependent** upon any  
of the self-achieved righteousness  
of the Law. **God has GIVEN me that  
genuine righteousness  
which comes from FAITH in Christ.**

Philippians 3:13-14 (HCS)

...**But ONE THING I do:**

**FORGETTING** what is behind

and **REACHING forward**

to what is ahead,

**I PURSUE as my GOAL**

the prize promised by God's  
heavenly call in Christ Jesus.

In buying land for his dead  
**Abraham DECLARED that**  
**God's PROMISES**  
**do NOT END with this life.**

## Hebrews 11:13 (NIV)

All these people were still living by faith  
**WHEN** they **DIED**.

They did not receive the things promised; they  
only **saw them and WELCOMED them**  
**from a DISTANCE**. And they admitted that  
they were aliens and strangers on earth.

Hebrews 11:16 (NIV)

...Instead, they were **LONGING** for a  
**BETTER COUNTRY**  
**a HEAVENLY one.**

Therefore God is not **ashamed** to be called  
**their God**, for he has prepared  
a city for them.

The time of death should be  
the time when the godly **PROCLAIM**  
their **FAITH LOUDLY**  
in view of our **HOPE**  
in God's **PROMISES.**

Constable

## Job 19:25-27 (NIV)

I know that **MY Redeemer lives**, and that in the end **HE will stand upon the earth.**

[26] And after my skin has been destroyed,  
**yet in my flesh I WILL SEE God;**

[27] I myself will see him with my own eyes - I, and not another.

**How my heart YEARNS within me!**

# Questions

- 1. Why is DEATH so hard for us here?**
- 2. What is Important about Forgetting the Past and MOVING forward following Jesus?**
- 3. How is Ruth an Example of Commitment and Faith in God**