

“WHAT IS YOUR INTERPRETATION OF YOUR TRIALS?”

(Ruth 1:19-22)

I. INTRODUCTION

II. DEATH IN A FOREIGN COUNTRY (1:1-22)

A. The Setting for the Crisis (1:1-2)

B. The Nature of the Crisis (1:3-5)

C. The Response to the Crisis (1:6-18)

D. The Interpretation of the Crisis (1:19-22)

1. As Naomi and Ruth’s journey reached its destination, there was a buzz of excitement among the women in Bethlehem, they were _____ when they _____ Naomi.
(v. 19)

2. Naomi’s name in Hebrew meant “*pleasant*,” but she no longer identified with that name; she now wanted to be called “*Mara*” which meant bitter. (v. 20)
 - a. Regrettably Naomi wanted her _____ to reflect her negative _____.

 - b. The decade in Moab had cost her plenty, and it had probably taken its toll on her _____ as well as her _____.

 - c. She blatantly _____ the Almighty (*šhadday*) of _____ (*hemar*) her to be bitter.

3. It can be said that Naomi most definitely believed in the _____ of _____
(v. 21a)

4. Unfortunately, much like an unbeliever does, without taking any _____ responsibility for her own actions, the tragedies of life caused Naomi to _____ God for everything. (v. 21b)

5. She claimed that God was guilty of doing _____ (*hera'*) in bringing these disastrous calamities of life with the _____ to bring _____ to her. (v. 21c)

6. Despite this somber scene, the narrator concluded this chapter on a high note by mentioning "*barley harvest*" which was typically viewed with renewed hope in _____ and _____. (v. 22)

E. Reasons for Difficulties, Adversity, and Trials in Any Believer's Life

1. Trials are because of _____ and its _____ on the human race. (Gen. 2-4)

2. Trials are because of _____ sin.

3. Trials are because of _____.

* How can you begin to personally apply this truth in your own life?