




SHATTERED DREAMS

God's Pathway to Joy

The Story of Naomi from the Book of Ruth...



**May the LORD repay you for what you
have done. May you be richly rewarded by
the LORD, the God of Israel, under whose
wings you have come to take refuge.**

Ruth 2:12 (NIV)

**A thousand years in your sight
are like a day that has just gone by,
or like a watch in the night.**

Psalms 90:4 (NIV)

Three Characteristics of Naomi's Despair:

1. *Embittered Eyes are Blind*
2. *God will do what He wants...
What's the use*
3. *I'm Being Punished for Sin*



LESSON ONE:
SHATTERED DREAMS ARE PAINFUL

*“Call me Mara . . .
I went away full,
but the Lord has brought
me back empty”
Ruth 1:20*



God hath not promised skies always blue,
Flower-strewn pathways all our lives through;
God hath not promised sun without rain,
Joy without sorrow, peace without pain.

But God hath promised strength for the day,
Rest for the labor, light for the way,
Grace for the trials, help from above,
Unfailing sympathy, undying love.

Annie Johnson Flint



**LESSON TWO:
SHATTERED DREAMS FEEL LIKE
ALL HOPE IS LOST**

*“Unless a grain of wheat falls
into the ground and dies, it
remains alone; but if it dies, it
produces much grain”*

John 12:24



LESSON THREE:
SHATTERED DREAMS & GOD'S
PROVIDENTIAL HAND

“As it turned out . . .”

Ruth 2:3



Levirate custom:

When a man died, leaving a widow, the nearest kinsmen or relative was required to marry the widow and the first born child of the new marriage was to take the name of the dead man in order that no family would perish from the tribes of Israel.



**LESSON FOUR:
*SHATTERED DREAMS ARE PART OF
GOD'S LARGER STORY***

*“Then Naomi took the child, laid
him in her lap and cared for him.”*

Ruth 4:16



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