

even as it hath taught you, abide in Him (1 John ii. 27).

The history of Ruth is a singularly beautiful type of Christ and His saints. It will be remembered that the Moabites were the descendants of Lot by his own daughter (*Genesis* xix. 33-37). Evilly begotten by incest, in drunkenness, they became an idolatrous nation, and were ever the enemies to God's people Israel. These were the posterity of one who, through a righteous man himself, yet lived amongst the evil men of Sodom, and preferred worldly advantages, pleasures, and society, with all its dignities; for Lot sat in the gate of Sodom—a place where the chief men of the people were wont to sit—and he was gratified in such a position, much esteemed by the world, but far removed from a close walk with God. What a contrast to his uncle Abraham, whose posterity was so [blessed, who separated himself from the intercourse of evil men, preferring to dwell in the wilderness with God (*Genesis* xiii.).

The land of Israel being visited by famine, a chastisement from God upon His people for their waywardness and rebellion, Elimelech and his family endeavour to evade the judgment by leaving the land which God had graciously given them, for that of their enemies, and leaving also their kindred for the company of idolators: they trust to the Moabites, rather than trusting to the God of Israel. What unbelief is shown here! They seek food among the Moabites; bodily food they obtain, but what food for the soul do they receive? They left