

Transforming Daily
“ . . on the way to return . . . ”
Ruth 1:7

There is more to this phrase than meets the eye. The very thing that took Naomi and her family away from their homeland was now the very thing that was bringing her back. An end to the physical famine, and Naomi's stark realization of her present circumstances brought her to the conclusion that she needed to return home; which actually begs the question of whether or not they needed to or even should have left in the first place. Did they panic into error because of the famine? Was it a decision of convenience because they wanted more? Would Boaz and Ruth have gotten together had Naomi and her family not gone to Moab? Obviously the answer to these questions will go unanswered, however, it is contextually evident that Naomi didn't belong in Moab, nor did she wish to remain.

The belief system and decision making process of a Christian is challenged to harmonize both faith and reason. Whereas more often than not faith and reason are in agreement, sometimes they are not, especially in light of miracles. However, the variable in harmonizing faith and reason in decision making is the will of the believer. Personal feelings, emotions, logic, physical condition and conscience all influence the will of any individual. That's why believers, though born again and indwelt by the Holy Spirit, can still make mistakes, and of biblical fact, can actually quench and grieve the Holy Spirit. When decisions are made solely by reason rather than through faith, or even by reason dominating faith, the believer can begin a journey that will ultimately take them from right fellowship with God. The believer's relationship with God will still be solid, but the fellowship is impeded in some way or by some means. The only solution is for the believer to realize the lack of fellowship with God and return to Him through repentance.

What is your present fellowship with God like? Have you developed spiritual discernment and awareness to the things of God? Are you more likely to lean on reason over faith in your decision making process? Are you on a journey away from fellowship with God that began with compromise and concession? If so, through repentance God-ward your fellowship with Him can be on the way to return.