Each Christmas our hearts and minds are reminded of the sleepy little village called Bethlehem. We rightly think of Bethlehem as the birthplace of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. However, Bethlehem’s history is much deeper than that single night. In fact, the first mention of this sleepy village is all the way back in the book of Genesis in connection to the burial site of Jacob’s love, Rachel. Today, we turn to the story of Naomi and Ruth as we begin a journey to uncover the significant events in Bethlehem that paved the way for Jesus’ birth.

Sermon Notes

Take Me Back to Bethlehem

Hope in the Light

Ruth 1 (Micah 5:2)

(Page 182 in the Pew Bible)

**Naomi and Ruth’s return to Bethlehem emphasizes …**

* The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of the return
* The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of the return
* The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of the return
* The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of the return

**In my moments of darkness, I can find similar light in the hope of Jesus …**

* Hope because the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of my sin is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Hope through two \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
  + The sacrifice of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
  + The sacrifice I must make to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Jesus
* Hope through the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus’ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Hope through the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of my \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Outlined structured from comments in Dr. James E. Smith’s commentary *The Pentateuch*