

Less Than a Widow

©2014 Kathleen S. Evenhouse

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DEDICATION

to
God, who wrote the whole story

to
John, my strong support

to
so many others who
inspired,
read,
critiqued,
and
encouraged

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PREFACE

If establishing precise timelines is important to you, I would gently suggest that researching ancient history might not be your best career choice. The wide gaps that exist between dates and data result in disagreement and discussion between historians (both secular and religious), archaeologists, and scholars.

After extensive study and careful thought, I chose to forego specific dates. Instead, I strove to be as accurate as I could in telling the stories of the lives of these characters in the culture, times, and places where they lived. When faced with conflicting timelines, I based my choices on the biblical narrative, the flow of the story, and the characters.

The basis of the stories in *Less Than a Widow* did not come out of my imagination, but from the Old Testament in the Bible. Using biblical chronology and details, I built the characters' personalities and actions. Research of their culture, religions, lifestyles, and the world at the times they lived gave me the setting for their stories.

Although the story of Ruth and Boaz took place around 1320 B.C., in many ways it is our own story today.