

The Faith Of A Foreign Woman Ruth 1-4

Introduction: Your accepted, I Know Where I Am Going

Three Observations About The Story of Ruth

“In the days when the judges ruled, there was a famine in the land. So a man from Bethlehem in Judah, together with his wife and two sons, went to live for a while in the country of Moab. The man's name was Elimelech, his wife's name Naomi, and the names of his two sons were Mahlon and Kilion. They were Ephrathites from Bethlehem, Judah. And they went to Moab and lived there.”
Ruth 1:1-2

1. Ruth’s Story Takes Place During The Judges.
2. The Family Is From Bethlehem.
3. God Is Again Using A Famine.

Ruth Returns With Naomi To Bethlehem.

“But Ruth replied, "Don't urge me to leave you or to turn back from you. Where you go I will go, and where you stay I will stay. Your people will be my people and your God my God.”
Ruth 1:16

1. Ruth, The Foreigner Will Not Stay In Moab.
2. Naomi (pleasant, beautiful) Wants To Be Called Mara (bitter) Because Of Life’s Hardships.

Ruth Meets Boaz, and Boaz Favors Ruth.

“Boaz asked the overseer of his harvesters, Who does the young woman belong too? The overseer replied, “She is the Moabite who came back from Moab with Naomi. She said, “Please let me glean and gather among the sheaves behind the harvesters. She came into the field and has worked from morning till now, except for a short rest in the shelter. So Boaz said to Ruth, “My daughter, listen to me. Don’t go and glean in another field and don’t go away from here. Stay here with women, who work for me. Watch the field where the harvesters are working, and

follow along after the women. I have told the men not to lay a hand on you. And whenever you are thirsty, go and get a drink from the water jars the men have filled. At this, she bowed down with her face to the ground. She asked him, “Why have I found such favor in your eyes that you notice me—a foreigner?” Boaz replied, I have been told about what you have done for your mother in-law since the death of your husband--how you left your father and mother in your homeland and came to live with a people you did not know before. May the Lord repay you for what you have done. Now listen to this “May you be richly rewarded by the Lord the God of Israel under whose wings you have come to take refuge.”
Ruth 2:5-12

Boaz Respects Ruth’s Character, Her Courage and Faith.

1. Ruth Risks Rejection As A Moabite (a nation that has oppressed Israel for 18 years).
2. Ruth Hears “Your Accepted” From Boaz.

"Who are you?" he asked. "I am your servant Ruth," she said. "Spread the corner of your garment over me, since you are a kinsman-redeemer."
Ruth 3:9

Boaz Marries Ruth As A Kinsman-Redeemer

“So Boaz took Ruth and she became his wife. When he made love to her, the Lord enabled her to conceive, and she gave birth to a son. The women said to Naomi: "Praise be to the Lord, who this day has not left you without a family guardian. May he become famous throughout Israel! He will renew your life and sustain you in your old age. For your daughter-in-law, who loves you and who is better to you than seven sons, has given him birth." Then Naomi took the child in her arms and cared for him. The women living there said, "Naomi has a son!" And they named him Obed. He was the father of Jesse, the father of David.”
Ruth 4:13-17

1. Boaz and Ruth Have A Son, Called Obed (worker).
2. Obed Is The Father Of Jesse, Who Is The Father Of David.

Application: How Can We Be Modern Day Boazs?

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