



A Worthy Man

“Behold, the Redeemer” Series

Ruth 2:1-13, page 222

August 30, 2020

Pastor Mickey Klink

Introduction

In this passage God teaches us how to glean from his Word what is true and expected from us.

The Text: Ruth 2:1-13

¹ Now Naomi had a relative of her husband's, a worthy man of the clan of Elimelech, whose name was Boaz. ² And Ruth the Moabite said to Naomi, “Let me go to the field and glean among the ears of grain after him in whose sight I shall find favor.” And she said to her, “Go, my daughter.” ³ So she set out and went and gleaned in the field after the reapers, and she happened to come to the part of the field belonging to Boaz, who was of the clan of Elimelech. ⁴ And behold, Boaz came from Bethlehem. And he said to the reapers, “The Lord be with you!” And they answered, “The Lord bless you.” ⁵ Then Boaz said to his young man who was in charge of the reapers, “Whose young woman is this?” ⁶ And the servant who was in charge of the reapers answered, “She is the young Moabite woman, who came back with Naomi from the country of Moab.” ⁷ She said, ‘Please let me glean and gather among the sheaves after the reapers.’ So she came, and she has continued from early morning until now, except for a short rest.” ⁸ Then Boaz said to Ruth, “Now, listen, my daughter, do not go to glean in another field or leave this one, but keep close to my young women. ⁹ Let your eyes be on the field that they are reaping, and go after them. Have I not charged the young men not to touch you? And when you are thirsty, go to the vessels and drink what the young men have drawn.” ¹⁰ Then she fell on her face, bowing to the ground, and said to him, “Why have I found favor in your eyes, that you should take notice of me, since I am a foreigner?” ¹¹ But Boaz answered her, “All that you have done for your mother-in-law since the death of your husband has been fully told to me, and how you left your father and mother and your native land and came to a people that you did not know before. ¹² The Lord repay you for what you have done, and a full reward be given you by the Lord, the God of Israel, under whose wings you have come to take refuge!” ¹³ Then she said, “I have found favor in your eyes, my lord, for you have comforted me and spoken kindly to your servant, though I am not one of your servants.”

- 1) Watch Boaz – and learn how to follow where the Bible points you (v. 1).

- 2) Reject coincidences – for the Bible rejects any such thing as a doctrine of coincidence (vv. 2-4).

- 3) Think about the poor and foreigner – for God does and commands you to do the same (vv. 5-13).

Response

The Lord bless you as you watch Boaz, reject coincidences, and refine your posture to the poor and foreigner.

Sunday Text Questions for Ruth 2:1-13 (“Ruth” Series)

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- 1) Starter Question: Describe a time when you moved to a new place and felt like an outsider or foreigner.
- 2) Read the text aloud and discuss together any significant observations or issues needing clarification.
- 3) In the context of the ancient world, why might it be significant that Boaz is a relative of Naomi’s husband (v. 1)?
- 4) What do Ruth’s actions in v. 2 tell the reader about her?
- 5) Read Leviticus 19:9. How is “gleaning” different than “reaping” or “harvesting” (v. 3), and why is that significant for the story?
- 6) How does Boaz’s generosity and kindness toward Ruth in vv. 8-13 confirm that he is “a worthy man?”
- 7) Read Leviticus 19:10. Why does God command his people to care for the poor and the sojourner/foreigner/immigrant?
- 8) How is Boaz obeying Lev. 19:9-10 in his response to Ruth the Moabite?
- 9) Even if Christians disagree on how a nation-state should design an immigration *policy*, how might this text and Lev. 19 instruct our *posture* toward the immigrant?
- 10) How can you show regard and concern for the poor and the foreigner in your context?

Further study this week: Bible verses on the foreigner/immigrant: Deut. 10:19 and Lev. 19:34 (Mon); Ps. 146:9 and Jer. 7:5-7 (Tue); Ezek. 47:22 and Zech. 7:9-10 (Wed); Matt. 25:35 and Luke 10:27 (Thurs); Acts 10:34 and Heb. 13:1-3 (Fri).

