

“Historical Books Of The Bible”
Ruth 2:17-23
Wednesday September 4, 2013

The Book Of Ruth Is Teaching Us “How we can put our lives back together.”

God’s Provision For Man’s Need.

Ruth 1:21

Rev. 3:17

1. Verses 17-18 – New Provision

2. Verses 19-20 – New Hope

3. Verses 21-23 – New Motive

1. Verses 17-18 – New Provision:

Ruth 2:17

Ruth 2:2

God’s Kingdom Has Spiritual Reapers/Gleaners! John 4:35

Barley – was March to April. Wheat – was June to July.

“ephah of barley” – “30-35 lbs, $\frac{3}{4}$ Bushel”

The reason that Ruth had plenty was that she had been with Boaz (Jesus Our Redeemer).

Ruth 2:18

Ruth Was A Hard Worker – “she took it up and went into the city, and her mother-in-law saw what she had gleaned.”

Ruth Was Not Wasteful – “She also took it out and gave Naomi what she had left after she was satisfied.”

Ruth 2:14

Ruth Had Been Blessed By Boaz To Satisfaction – Ruth 2:14 – “she (Ruth) ate and was satisfied and had some left.” Ruth 2:18 – “she (Naomi) was satisfied.”

2. Verses 19-20 – New Hope:

Ruth 2:19

When we see provision, we should also see the hand of God.

This word “blessed” is a new word for Naomi. She had become bitter because of her poor decisions. Ruth 1:20

The Formula For Spiritual Emptiness: Unbelief plus rebellion plus bitterness equals emptiness.

Naomi had an empty heart, an empty house and empty hands. The Lord used the abundance of the barley to show Naomi that He was the provider.

The Formula For Spiritual Life: Faith plus submission plus gratitude equals satisfaction.

Ruth 2:20

Not only is Naomi using the word “blessed”, but now the “Lord.”

Ruth 1:13

Ruth 1:20

Ruth 1:21

Ruth 2:19

“Boaz” – “Strength, Sturdy”; This is going to bring hope to the heart of Naomi.

Ruth 2:20 – “The man is our relative, he is one of our closest relatives.”

Hope – “The inner sense of joyful assurance and confidence as we trust God's promises and face the future with His help.”

Hope Because Of Who Boaz Was: Kinsman – used 13X in Ruth.

The closest relative (Called a “kinsman redeemer” or Hebrew – “goel”) could come to the aid of their own relative that had fallen into hard times. They could redeem or purchase back what had been sold, or forfeited because of poverty.

Could redeem 3 things:

1. Personal Property – Lev. 25:25
2. Persons That Were Sold Into Slavery – Lev. 25:26
Lev. 25:47-49
3. Widows Redeemed By Marriage So Their Family Name And Inheritance Would Continue On – Deut. 25:5-6
1 Peter 1:3-5

Hope Because Of What Boaz Did:

1. Boaz Spoke to Ruth, he had taken an interest in her.
2. Boaz protected Ruth.
3. Boaz gave generously. Not only dropping handfuls, but meals and an abundance of water.

Hope Because Of What Boaz Said: Ruth 2:8

Ruth 2:21

3. Verses 21-23 – New Motive:

Ruth 2:21

Ruth 2:8

“my harvest.” – That is no type-o error. The harvest does belong to Jesus. It's all His. This whole earth is His.

Ruth 2:22

The older – possess wisdom, but sometimes lack the zeal, the vision, but are stable.

The younger – lack wisdom, but have the zeal, have vision but lack the patience of time.

That's why God often accompanies the young and the old:

1. Moses and Joshua.
2. Eli and Samuel.
3. Elijah and Elisha.
4. Paul and Timothy.

Ruth 2:23

Ruth is an example of service to the Lord:

1. Ruth Willingly Volunteered: Naomi did not have to ask her, she saw the need and went out to meet the need. John 4:35
2. Ruth Did Not Consider Gleaning Beneath Her: Jesus washed the disciple's feet.
3. Ruth Gleaned Until Evening: She did not waste time, she did not procrastinate. John 9:4
4. Ruth Hoped In The Harvest: She was working towards and looking to the harvest. 1 Thess. 4:17

Application:

1. Be Faithful To What The Lord Has Called You To Do. God Will Use You And Reward You For Your Faithful Service. God Will Drop Handfuls Along The Way.
2. When We See Provision, We Should Also See The Hand Of God.
3. The Formula For Spiritual Life: Faith Plus Submission Plus Gratitude Equals Satisfaction.