

CAN YOU HEAR ME? DO YOU SEE ME? RUTH 2

October 31st, 2021



RUTH 2:1-4

Now there was a wealthy and influential man in Bethlehem named Boaz, who was a relative of Naomi's husband, Elimelech.

One day Ruth the Moabite said to Naomi, "Let me go out into the harvest fields to pick up the stalks of grain left behind by anyone who is kind enough to let me do it."

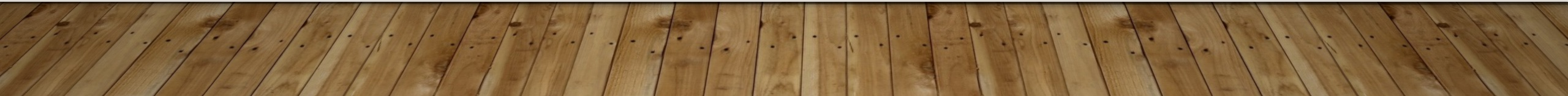
Naomi replied, "All right, my daughter, go ahead." So, Ruth went out to gather grain behind the harvesters. And as it happened, she found herself working in a field that belonged to Boaz, the relative of her father-in-law, Elimelech.



RUTH 2:5-7

Then Boaz asked his foreman, “Who is that young woman over there? Who does she belong to?”

And the foreman replied, “She is the young woman from Moab who came back with Naomi. She asked me this morning if she could gather grain behind the harvesters. She has been hard at work ever since, except for a few minutes’ rest in the shelter.”



RUTH 2:8-10

Boaz went over and said to Ruth, “Listen, my daughter. Stay right here with us when you gather grain; don’t go to any other fields. Stay right behind the young women working in my field. See which part of the field they are harvesting, and then follow them. I have warned the young men not to treat you roughly. And when you are thirsty, help yourself to the water they have drawn from the well.”

Ruth fell at his feet and thanked him warmly. “What have I done to deserve such kindness?” she asked. “I am only a foreigner.”



RUTH 2:11-13

“Yes, I know,” Boaz replied. “But I also know about everything you have done for your mother-in-law since the death of your husband. I have heard how you left your father and mother and your own land to live here among complete strangers. May the LORD, the God of Israel, under whose wings you have come to take refuge, reward you fully for what you have done.”

“I hope I continue to please you, sir,” she replied. “You have comforted me by speaking so kindly to me, even though I am not one of your workers.”



RUTH 2:14-16

At mealtime Boaz called to her, “Come over here, and help yourself to some food. You can dip your bread in the sour wine.” So, she sat with his harvesters, and Boaz gave her some roasted grain to eat. She ate all she wanted and still had some left over.

When Ruth went back to work again, Boaz ordered his young men, “Let her gather grain right among the sheaves without stopping her. And pull out some heads of barley from the bundles and drop them on purpose for her. Let her pick them up, and don’t give her a hard time!”



JUDGES 21:25

In those days there was no king in Israel; everyone did what was right in his own eyes.



RUTH 1:1-5 (ISH)

Now it came about in the days when the judges governed, that there was a famine in the land. And a man of Bethlehem in Judah went to reside in the land of Moab with his wife and his two sons ... So, they entered the land of Moab and remained there. Then Elimelech died ... Then both Mahlon and Chilion also died, and the woman was left without her two sons and her husband.

RUTH IS SEEN BUT UNSEEN (A FOREIGNER)

The author writes it, “One day Ruth the Moabite ...”

The foreman says it, “She is the young woman from Moab ...”

She admits it, “I am only a foreigner.”

Boaz agrees, “Yes, I know.”

RUTH HAS PROBABLY BEEN MISTREATED

Boaz comforts, “I have warned the young men not to treat you roughly. And when you are thirsty, help yourself to the water they have drawn from the well.”

Ruth responds, “Ruth fell at his feet and thanked him warmly. “What have I done to deserve such kindness?”

Ruth responds again, “You have comforted me by speaking so kindly to me.”

Boaz instructs, “Don’t give her a hard time!”



RUTH'S LIFE HAS CHANGED

She was SEEN, but as a FOREIGNER!

Now ...

She is SEEN for who she is ... Ruth, a person.

WHY DOES THIS MATTER?

God always saw Ruth

Now ...

He needed a Boaz.

THOUGHTS FOR APPLICATION

Who needs to see you?

Who do you need to see?