

A New Beginning

Ruth 2: 1-3

In our text verses, we find a new beginning in the lives of Naomi and Ruth. They have made their way from Moab to Bethlehem and there is renewed hope and a desire for a better life.

It is in these verses that we are introduced to a man by the name of Boaz. If you remember Naomi stands as a picture of a wayward Christian, one who has left the ways of God for the pleasures of the world. Ruth is a Gentile girl in search of the grace of God. She is a picture of those who are lost in need of salvation. Boaz, who was related to Naomi's husband, is also a key figure in this wonderful account of grace. He stands as a clear picture of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

As we move through these verses, we will discover the hope and anticipation of a new beginning. The Bible is filled with new beginnings. We serve a God who offers and provides opportunities for new beginnings. Let's take a few moments to consider the [principles](#) revealed concerning: [A New Beginning](#). First of all we see:

I. The Presence of Boaz (1) – [And Naomi had a kinsman of her husband's, a mighty man of wealth, of the family of Elimelech; and his name was Boaz.](#) These few words offer a great description of Boaz.

Notice:

A. His Relationship – We find that he was a [kinsman](#) of Naomi's husband. Boaz was related to Elimelech and that would prove to be very beneficial in the lives of Naomi and Ruth. He was qualified to perform the part of a Kinsman Redeemer, one who was able to redeem Naomi and Ruth from a life of devastation and despair, while offering a life of hope and blessing.

B. His Resources – Boaz was known as a [mighty man of wealth](#). This reveals much about his standing and his character. He was:

1. A Man of Strength – Boaz was a [mighty man](#). He was a man of strength and bravery. He was a man of valor. He was one who had proven himself as a man of courage. Ruth surely needed one who was strong and brave to redeem her from the pitiful state in which she dwelt.

- Our Lord is also a mighty God. He faced the agony and torments of the cross because He loved us. He conquered death, hell, and the grave, rising victorious over sin. I rejoice in the might and strength of my Lord!

2. A Man of Wealth – Boaz was also a [man of wealth](#). He had the resources and ability to perform the part of a kinsman redeemer. They not only had to willing, but they had to be able. Boaz was able to redeem the debt Ruth possessed. He was able to deliver her and offer new life.

- Christ was the only one who possessed the necessary resources to purchase our redemption. He was the only one who had the means to secure our salvation. He possessed the righteousness God demanded. He possessed the love that was necessary to offer Himself a sacrifice for sin. He possessed the commitment to bear our sins in His own body. Jesus was the only one who was able to purchase redemption for fallen humanity! Salvation is a free gift of God, but it did not come cheap. Salvation was secured by a supreme price being paid upon the cross!

C. His Reputation (1) – Clearly this verse speaks of a man who was held in high regard of those who knew him. Boaz was a man of integrity and character. He was known of his kinsman.

- Once again this is a beautiful picture of our Lord. There are none like Him. He rises above all others. He is the eternal God-man, the Redeemer of our souls. He is the Author and Finisher of our faith. He is our Master and Lord. He possesses a name that is above all other names. None exceed or rival His majesty and honor. [Philip.2:9-11 – Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: ^{\[10\]} That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; ^{\[11\]} And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.](#)

II. The Persistence of Ruth (2) – [And Ruth the Moabite said unto Naomi, Let me now go to the field, and glean ears of corn after him in whose sight I shall find grace. And she said unto her, Go, my daughter.](#)

A. Her Desire – Ruth desired to [go to the field, and glean ears of corn](#). We must keep in mind that Ruth had spent many years in the barren land of Moab. She was hungry and in despair. She sought to be filled. She longed to find the nourishment that she so desperately needed. She was weary of hunger and sought to be filled.

- Do you remember how it felt to be hungry for the Lord? Do you remember the time when you longed to be filled spiritually? You maybe were not even aware of what you needed, but you desired to have the void in your soul filled with something that would satisfy. Unfortunately, many continue to wander in the wasteland of sin. They do not have to remain in that condition, but they must reach the place that they long for a change. They must reach the place that they hunger for the Lord.

B. Her Discernment (2) – Ruth may have been a woman of Moab, but she certainly was not ignorant. She knew where to look if she was to find the abundance she desired. Ruth realized if she was to be fed, she would have to seek nourishment in the field of grace.

- Many today are hungry, desiring to be filled, but they seem to lack the knowledge of where to look. The world has nothing to offer that will satisfy. The hungry soul will never be filled while feasting upon the world. If you stand in need spiritually, you need to search in the field of God's grace. [Draw nigh to God and He will draw nigh to you.](#) Seek Him while He may be found.

C. Her Devotion (2) – [And Ruth the Moabite said unto Naomi, Let me now go to the field, and glean ears of corn after him in whose sight I shall find grace. And she said unto her, Go, my daughter.](#) This reveals a couple of things about the devotion of Ruth. Notice:

1. She Sought Abundance – She sought to [glean ears of corn](#) in the field. She knew what she needed and she would not be satisfied with anything less. She desired to be filled. She was tired of being hungry. She was tired of the disappointment of the world. She longed to be filled with abundance! She was committed to receiving that abundance.

- Do you ever wonder why many fail to see that the world offers nothing but heartache and despair? Why is it that so many seem to be satisfied with what the world has to offer? Many today need to do as Ruth did and seek the abundance of the Lord. They need to flee the world and the lusts of the flesh, desiring to glean in the field of grace!

- This issue doesn't just involve the lost or wayward. Many Christians today are living beneath their means spiritually. I am not implying that serving the Lord will bring an abundance of wealth. I realize that coming to Christ does not shield us from troubles and trials. Being a Christian is not always an easy life, but there is so much more to obtain than what most have. We live our lives defeated and hungry when the Lord has a field of grace prepared for us to come and glean all that we need. We can enjoy the abundance of God!

2. She Sought Acceptance – Ruth also desired to [find grace](#) in the sight of the owner of the field. She wanted to be accepted of her master. She wanted a right relationship with him.

- What a powerful lesson from a Gentile girl. She was not concerned about pleasing the flesh or those around her. She wanted to please the one who owned the field. Many today live their lives dictated by those around them. Their priority in life is to be accepted of their peers. God is the One we need to please. He is the One in which we need to find grace.

- I have been challenged by the life of Ruth. I am saved and secure in Christ my Lord, but I want to find grace in His sight. I want to live in such a way that my life pleases Him. I want to honor the Lord and submit myself unto Him. Are we living in a way that honors the Lord or are we living to please and satisfy ourselves?

III. The Providence of God (3) – *And she went, and came, and gleaned in the field after the reapers: and her hap was to light on a part of the field belonging unto Boaz, who was of the kindred of Elimelech.*
Notice:

A. The Field was Provided – *Ruth gleaned in the field after the reapers.* God had made provision for Ruth and others like her. *Lev.19:9-10 – And when ye reap the harvest of your land, thou shalt not wholly reap the corners of thy field, neither shalt thou gather the gleanings of thy harvest. ^[10] And thou shalt not glean thy vineyard, neither shalt thou gather every grape of thy vineyard; thou shalt leave them for the poor and stranger: I am the LORD your God.* Ruth had not yet met the Lord and He had already made provision for her. He was sovereign in her life before she even knew Him.

- Aren't you glad that a field of grace was provided for us? We were all like Ruth, desperately searching for peace and fulfillment in our lives. God knew we would need Him and He provided a field of grace in which we could glean and learn of Him. Long before we ever thought of God or considered Him, He was making provision for us.

B. The Field was Prepared – The field of Boaz was prepared specifically for Ruth. Notice the text: *and her hap was to light on a part of the field belonging unto Boaz, who was of the kindred of Elimelech.* Ruth was not in the field of Boaz by accident. The word *hap* has the idea of "*accidental, a chance happening, or a good fortune.*" From the world's perspective it would appear that Ruth got lucky when she chose to glean in the field of Boaz. It would appear this coincidental decision worked out for her. But, may I suggest this was no accident? God had not brought her from Moab without purpose! He had divinely orchestrated the events of that day. God placed her in the field of Boaz. What appeared to be coincidence was in fact the sovereignty of God in action!

- It is no accident any of us are saved. We did not make a good decision to attend a church service. We did not choose to seek the Lord in and of our own accord. We were saved and kept by the providence of God. He prepared a field of grace for each of us to glean in so we could meet our Kinsman Redeemer! What a compassionate and wise God we serve.

Conclusion: I trust you have been encouraged by the Scripture. I rejoice knowing I serve a Lord who loves me and made provision for my salvation. He is sovereign and in control of our lives. He wants to provide the very best for us, but we must be willing to seek what He offers. God desires that we enjoy His abundance, but we must glean in the field of grace to obtain that.

Do you know the Lord in a personal way? Have you trusted Him as your Kinsman Redeemer? Christian are you gleaning in the field of grace or have you decided to glean in the fields of the world? If there is a need, Jesus stands ready to meet that need. Why not give it to Him?