

## ***Meditations from the Book of Ruth Part 9***

We will continue in this message what we had started meditating from the book of Ruth.

***“1 Then Naomi her mother in law said unto her, My daughter, shall I not seek rest for thee, that it may be well with thee? 2 And now is not Boaz of our kindred, with whose maidens thou wast? Behold, he winnoweth barley to night in the threshingfloor. 3 Wash thyself therefore, and anoint thee, and put thy raiment upon thee, and get thee down to the floor: but make not thyself known unto the man, until he shall have done eating and drinking. 4 And it shall be, when he lieth down, that thou shalt mark the place where he shall lie, and thou shalt go in, and uncover his feet, and lay thee down; and he will tell thee what thou shalt do. 5 And she said unto her, All that thou sayest unto me I will do.” (Ruth 3:1-5 KJV)***

***“1 Then Naomi her mother in law said unto her, My daughter, shall I not seek rest for thee, that it may be well with thee?” (Ruth 3:1 KJV)*** This thought that came to Naomi is a thought from God, and see how the elder woman now has took the lead to initiate such a wonderful thing from God to let Ruth has her family. It is a reward to Ruth because she persevered along the way with God and with her mother in law, and now it is the time for her to be rewarded. Marriage and children are reward from God. Ruth responded to the call of God, she left her father and her mother and her native land, and accepted the Lord as her God and she did her part well toward God and toward her mother in law.

- Toward God, Ruth kept her good testimony, she was decent and lived in righteousness, and she did not go after men. For her living she chose to work and earn her living and did not depend on others or took advantage of them for her living.
- Toward her mother in law she travelled back with her, she did not leave her, she worked and supported her and gave her food, she respected her and honored all her instructions and advices.

***\* Marriage is a reward toward those who have done their part well toward God or toward men. \* Learn now from the life of Ruth; respond to God’s call, and persevere to obey God and with the people that God had placed you with and He will bless you.***

Now about marriage and preparation for Godly marriage, Ruth was prepared by the Lord for such occasion. She was eligible for marriage being a widow, young in age and has no responsibility of children that she needs to care. Materially was prepared, having the inherited land from her dead husband side, well settled in the place that God wanted her to stay in Bethlehem, she had a house to live, she had work and earning for living, she was a believer, a faithful and responsible person, living holy life, mature and bearing the responsibilities of life. Such criteria made her fit and prepared for marriage. ***Check now yourself if you are ready and prepared for marriage. Are you single or widow? Are you mature, responsible, and faithful toward God and men? Are you having a place to live, or inheritance or a saving? Do you have a work or income? Are you a believer and***

***follower of Christ? Answer these questions now and from the answer you will know if you are ready for marriage or not.***

Naomi now, after she obeyed the Lord and went back to the Lord and to the place that He wanted her to be, in Bethlehem, God revealed Himself and revealed to her the full plan of restoration. Ruth now became a daughter to her as she was calling her ***“My daughter”***, and she started to see the potential of God to restore the life of the whole family through the life of Ruth. Naomi was at home and sure was meditating and pondering on the goodness of God, and what He was doing in providing her food and all her needs, in addition in giving her a daughter, who was causing her no trouble, and a work and in the right place of a man who was a kinsman of them. Sure what she shared with Ruth was God’s inspiration to her. Before she spoke with Ruth, God had showed her His good plan for the whole family to be restored.

***“2 And now is not Boaz of our kindred, with whose maidens thou wast? Behold, he winnoweth barley to night in the threshingfloor.” (Ruth 3<sup>2</sup> KJV)*** Naomi told Ruth now who was the proposed man, Boaz, whom Ruth was working with his girls in the field in gleaning the barley and the wheat. Boaz in pertain to the preparation for Godly marriage, was a believer who knew God and His Word. Who was obedient to God and to His Word. He was single man. How we know he was single? He was living in the field and no family. He was good in age, well to do, materially had field and work and good return, that he can take and provide for a family, in addition he was mature, a man who is responsible, fearing God, and He is called by God to marry the widow, Ruth, based on the Scriptures to fulfill the purpose of not letting the name of death to be put out of Israel as we read here, ***“5 If brethren dwell together, and one of them die, and have no child, the wife of the dead shall not marry without unto a stranger: her husband's brother shall go in unto her, and take her to him to wife, and perform the duty of an husband's brother unto her. 6 And it shall be, that the firstborn which she beareth shall succeed in the name of his brother which is dead, that his name be not put out of Israel.” (Deuteronomy 25:5-6 KJV)***

Boaz was a hard working man who loved his work; he was working and living in his field. He was of the kindred of Naomi family. So he was the man who was prepared by God to marry Ruth, the widow. ***You see here preparation for Godly marriage whether for men or women is the arrangement of God, the leading of the Holy Spirit and the Scriptures to be fulfilled.***

***“3 Wash thyself therefore, and anoint thee, and put thy raiment upon thee, and get thee down to the floor: but make not thyself known unto the man, until he shall have done eating and drinking.” (Ruth 3:3 KJV)*** Naomi told her how to approach the man. She asked her to take bath to remove dirt, bad and sweat smellings from her body. We take bath to clean our bodies from sweat and smell and skin debris. She asked her to dress modestly for she was wearing a veil as we can conclude from here, ***“15 Also he said, Bring the vail that thou hast upon thee, and hold it. And when she held it, he measured six measures of barley, and laid it on her: and she went into the city.” (Ruth 3:15 KJV)***

Naomi asked Ruth to anoint herself to invite the Holy Spirit and the presence of God to the situation. The oil to anoint was taken from the olive as we can read the clue of that in Deuteronomy, ***“Thou shalt have olive trees throughout all thy coasts, but thou shalt not anoint thyself with the oil; for thine olive shall cast his fruit.” (Deuteronomy 28:40 KJV)*** ***It was not a perfume as women today put and its smell spread that give attraction to men.*** It was

olive oil, and it was without a wide spread smell because Boaz did not smell it while she was in the floor in the place that he was working.

To the contrary of the decent olive oil that Ruth was asked to anoint herself with to invite the Holy Spirit and to receive the peace and the comfort of God, we can read about the perfume the harlot had put on her bed when she went out to meet the man, ***“I have perfumed my bed with myrrh, aloes, and cinnamon.” (Proverbs 7:17 KJV)*** The wide spread of perfume is to take the attention of people. The olive oil that Ruth anointed herself with did not take the attention of Boaz.

The instruction that Naomi gave to Ruth is not to show herself to the man, because he will not entertain her or allow her to be in the floor, but to let him first eat and drink. Most likely because he was working hard and evening was the time to eat and drink, and rest into sleep. *\* If Ruth had put perfume as girls today they put perfume and attract others, Boaz will be attracted to the perfume. \* The oil to anoint is to bring God’s presence to the situation and to that particular meeting.*

***“4 And it shall be, when he lieth down, that thou shalt mark the place where he shall lie, and thou shalt go in, and uncover his feet, and lay thee down; and he will tell thee what thou shalt do.” (Ruth 3:4 KJV)*** *What Naomi advised Ruth to do, we cannot use it as a method that we can apply to bring a man and woman to marriage.* That was not the normal and the practice at that time, but most likely what Naomi taught Ruth she received from the Lord. Naomi asked her to let the man sleep, and mark the place of his sleep, uncover his feet and to lay down, and to wait their until he will tell her what to do. It looks like, that he should be given notice directly on the issue of marriage and he needed to respond to it because she told her. ***“and he will tell thee what thou shalt do.”***

***“5 And she said unto her, All that thou sayest unto me I will do.” (Ruth 3:5 KJV)*** Ruth was obedient to her mother in law, and even with such a request to her she obeyed and said that she will do all what her mother in law says to her. That not only reflect Ruth humility and obedience, but her confidence in her mother in law that she will not ask her to do anything unless she is sure and unless she is directed by God and His Word. Ruth had tried her mother in law in the way back to Bethlehem that she did not promise her that she can arrange for her a marriage, but now she is speaking to her how to do it, and that Naomi is not going to do unless she was sure of it that had come from God. You see the very beautiful behavior of Ruth with her mother in law, Naomi, how she trusted her and listened attentively and obeyed all her instructions to her. *It is very adorable attitude that young people will listen and obey the elders who are over them in the Lord, and in such a way things will become better and everything will be falling in place as God ordained.*

***My dear and beloved:*** Check yourself now by answering these questions:

- *Have you responding to God’s call and obeyed?*
- *Are you living the plan of God that he had ordained for you to live?*
- *Are you living in the place that God had ordained for you to live?*
- *Are you working where God wanting you to work?*
- *Are you studying where God had ordained for you to study?*

- *Are you living with the people that God ordained for you to live?*
- *Are you getting your life involved with work and to do your assignment and the task entrusted to you, or you are wasting your time with friends, parties, and on the social Media?*
- *Are you seeing the good things in the plan of God and how He is providing well for you?*
- *Are you appreciating the good number of people whom God placed you with, and who are guiding you with their Godly advices?*
- *Are you working hard and loving the work that God gave to you?*
- *Are you yielding to the leading of the Holy Spirit, and working diligently with God to fulfill the Scripture?*
- *Do you prefer to be filled and anointed with the Holy Spirit to bring God’s presence in your life, or with perfume and delight in make up?*
- *Are you obedient to the elders over you, listening and obeying their instructions that comes from the Holy Spirit and the Word of God?*

As you persevere with God, then He will bless you and reward you for your faithfulness. Let us pray.

***My Prayer:*** Father God, I come before you in the name of Jesus, who died on the cross for my sins to give me eternal life. Lord I thank you for your Word and your teaching that I received in this message.

*Ask God forgiveness for all your sins, especially doing your own plan and will, non willingness to commit to the call of God, lack of respect to the elders, carelessness to do your responsibilities toward others, non willingness to work hard, your mismanagement to your time, non yielding to the leading of the Holy Spirit and to the Godly advices of the elders.*

*Lord I commit myself to the teaching that I had received from your Word in this message to do and to act upon it in my life. Lord I commit myself to your call in my life and to the plan that you had prepared for me to go through. Lord I commit myself to live in the place that you wants me to live and to work the kind of work that you wants me to work. Lord I thank you for the people that you placed beside me to guide me with your Word and with your good plan for me. Lord I commit myself to listen to the instructions of the elders and your church that comes from your Word. Lord I commit myself to show the fruit of the Holy Spirit, love peace, joy, patience, self-control, perseverance, gentleness, kindness, long-suffering, and the rest of the fruit so others will see Jesus in my life. Lord refills me with the Holy Spirit for I delight with your presence in my life.*

*Lord I pray for my brothers and sisters who committed themselves to the principles of the message, Lord bless them, comfort them and give them peace. Lord refill them with the Holy Spirit and guide them step by step so that your plan for them will be fulfilled in their lives.*

*Lord I pray that you will help us as a church to implement your Word and the teaching we receive in this message. Lord refill us with the Holy Spirit to go forward to evangelize and make new disciples and complete the work that you ordained for us to do. Lord fulfill your vision to the church, ‘Multiplication in peace with implementing the whole will of God’. Lord helps us to plant new Bible studies and new congregations for the church. Lord bless us and*

*enlarge our territory let your hands be with us and free us from harm so that we will not feel pain. May the grace of the Lord Jesus and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all in Jesus name, Amen.*

Meditation from the book of Ruth Part 9. Ruth 3:1-5. Deuteronomy 25:5-6, 15. Deuteronomy 28:40. Proverbs 7:17.

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