

Meditations from the Book of Ruth Part 11

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

“12 And now it is true that I am thy near kinsman: howbeit there is a kinsman nearer than I. 13 Tarry this night, and it shall be in the morning, that if he will perform unto thee the part of a kinsman, well; let him do the kinsman's part: but if he will not do the part of a kinsman to thee, then will I do the part of a kinsman to thee, as the LORD liveth: lie down until the morning. 14 And she lay at his feet until the morning: and she rose up before one could know another. And he said, Let it not be known that a woman came into the floor. 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. 16 And when she came to her mother in law, she said, Who art thou, my daughter? And she told her all that the man had done to her. 17 And she said, These six measures of barley gave he me; for he said to me, Go not empty unto thy mother in law. 18 Then said she, Sit still, my daughter, until thou know how the matter will fall: for the man will not be in rest, until he have finished the thing this day.” (Ruth 3:12-18 KJV)

“12 And now it is true that I am thy near kinsman: howbeit there is a kinsman nearer than I.” (Ruth 3:12 KJV) Here Boaz further explained to Ruth the facts after she asked him to marry her. He explained to her that there is another kinsman who is nearer to her than him. Boaz was aware of the Word of God and He is obedient to God's command. What we can learn here is that we should not go with our emotions and with the circumstances while the Word of God is not yet fulfilled. Even her mother in law told her to go to Boaz, and even Ruth came to him herself and asked him to marry her, still there were things needed to be proved before this will come true. Many times you go with your emotions while the Word of God is not yet fulfilled, and so you go in your expectation ahead of God, the thing that should not happen. Boaz was cautious about such; that is why he further told her about what he needed to do before he can fulfill her request, and as the following:

“13 Tarry this night, and it shall be in the morning, that if he will perform unto thee the part of a kinsman, well; let him do the kinsman's part: but if he will not do the part of a kinsman to thee, then will I do the part of a kinsman to thee, as the LORD liveth: lie down until the morning.” (Ruth 3:13 KJV) He asked her to stay and wait in the floor till morning, because it was midnight and still more hours for the night to end. After mid night it was not a good time to move out of the floor and go home. So he requested her to stay until morning, as he asked her to lie down and sleep until the morning. And he told her also if the other kinsman will perform his kinsman's part, then that is correct, but if he will not do then he will do the kinsman part of it. So here Boaz explained to her how needed to be done clearly based on Scriptures and based on the right of each and every individual. He told her that there is a person ahead of him and he is to decide for himself if he need to do that, and explained to her that he cannot bypassed him and this is a fact, otherwise he will be blamed. So we need to be aware how we will conduct our affairs. As well as we can see clearly such kind of marriage that based solely on Scriptures it has no relation with their emotions, human plans, their desires or with what they like, but to do the will of God and fulfill the Scriptures. Even

when we want to do the will of God, there are certain Scriptures need to be fulfilled before this can take place, and we need to wait for certain circumstances to take place for these Scriptures to be fulfilled.

“14 And she lay at his feet until the morning: and she rose up before one could know another. And he said, Let it not be known that a woman came into the floor.” (Ruth 3:14 KJV) Possibly the place that she laid at his feet was his bed and she slept there so she will not feel cold. She chose the feet part as sign of humility, as if telling him, take me a wife and I will obey you and follow your instructions as I use to be while I was working in your field.

“And she rose up before one could know another. And he said, Let it not be known that a woman came into the floor.” Ruth woke up early and it was still dark so she can leave the floor without anyone noticing that a woman was there, so no one will think that they did something wrong. Now here we need to understand, it is our responsibility not to let people think wrong about us and doubt about our behavior. It is not enough that we are not doing wrong, but it is also required from us not to let anyone to doubt so that the ministry will not be blamed. As well as when we are loose in such we are giving chance and teaching to others to disobey and do wrong. That incident supposes to be the first and the last between them; that they will not be meeting one another unless they are married before God and before men. That is the standard of marriage based on the Scriptures; that man and woman will not meet until the wedding day; they will know whom they will marry, but they will not meet and have relationship between one another before the wedding day.

“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) Ruth was fully covered using the vail that covers her from head to toe. That vail was so spacious, that she still can carry six measures of barely, that Ruth was able to carry comfortably to the city. When we fear God and obey His instruction God will add to us His blessings. The vail used to cover the body of the woman. So the parts of her body will not appear, and it will not show the outlines of her parts. Woman when they walk with the vail no part of her body will be shown. The vail is spacious so the body parts will not be shown through it. In addition when they will put the locks to cover the face, only the eyes will be shown so no one can see the details of the face. With such custom and dress there is no way for woman with her body to entice men. Now let us ask ourselves this question. With our departure from such kind of dress and replace it with other fashion and without the vail, are we obeying God or are we in disobedience to Him? We are in disobedience and that is why God's blessings are taking away from us and we are falling short of it. God did not change His Word and He is waiting for us to come back fully to Him and applying His Scriptures in our lives.

About the *“six measures of barley”*, there is no definite amount about how much each measure. Most probably a measure is a scoop of a certain amount of barley by a single hand, and it might be varies from 1 to 2 kilogram as much as a single hand can carry. So what Ruth was able to carry approximately was 6-12 Kilograms.

The vail that Ruth wears helped her to carry the blessings of God to her and to her family. Boaz was generous and he gave to Ruth what suppose to work and earn for the day and send her home to her mother in law, and with a promise that he will work out her request. We need to give everyone what is due for him from wages.

“16 And when she came to her mother in law, she said, Who art thou, my daughter? And she told her all that the man had done to her.” (Ruth 3:16 KJV) Again here we found that Naomi was waiting for her daughter in law. Either she did not sleep, or most likely half slept or woke up early and was waiting for her. Naomi asked her, ***“Who art thou, my daughter?”*** Possibly she was not able to recognize her because it was still dark. Or ***“Who art thou, my daughter?”*** Naomi spoke out of her responsibility toward her daughter in law, looking for the outcome of her meeting with Boaz. As well as we can notice the great respect that Ruth had for her mother in law, for she reported to her all what the man did to her. * *Again parents and grand parents they need to be in harmony with their children and grandchildren about any sensitive matter as such and they need to do what the Word of God ordained them to do.* * *Children, grandchildren, or youngers ought to report sensitive things to their parents, grandparents and their elders.* * *There is nothing in the Bible that tells if your son or daughter in 18 years old then he is mature and he can depend on himself or can depend on herself. Children are still under parents and grandparents.*

“17 And she said, These six measures of barley gave he me; for he said to me, Go not empty unto thy mother in law.” (Ruth 3:17 KJV) Ruth endorsed to her mother in law what Boaz gave to her. Boaz sent this amount of barley also in honor to the old widow who feared God and was doing what God instructing her to do of His will. Ruth reported in details all her discussion with Boaz when she said to Naomi, ***“for he said to me, Go not empty unto thy mother in law.”*** One of a great important fact of success as we can see here in the life of this family is the following:

- Ruth was obedient to fulfill all instructions with all details.
- Ruth was honestly reporting everything to her teacher and instructor, Naomi, her mother in law.
- Naomi was keen, patience and loving to instruct, teach and follow up her daughter in law.

“18 Then said she, Sit still, my daughter, until thou know how the matter will fall: for the man will not be in rest, until he have finished the thing this day.” (Ruth 3:18 KJV) Naomi said to Ruth, ***“Sit still, my daughter, until thou know how the matter will fall:”*** Ruth has done her part well and now nothing in her hand to do but to wait and see what God will do now to her. Naomi also assured Ruth, that Boaz will not keep still until he will finish the matter, ***“for the man will not be in rest, until he have finished the thing this day.”*** *People who are obedient and fear God will not postponed the work of God for tomorrow but they will finish it on the day that is required to finish. Disobedient people will not do what God had assigned for them to do unless they are forced to do that when they are put in the corner.*

Success and progress goes along with good characters. Humble and obedient attitude of Ruth, and loving, responsible and patience attitude of Naomi were the asset of success that this family of Naomi and Ruth was able to achieve.

My dear and beloved: Now observe yourself.

- *Are you going with your emotions and with the circumstances, and doing your own while the Word of God is not yet fulfilled?*
- *Are you having such attitudes of success; humble, obedient, loving, responsible and patience attitudes?*
- *Are you a person who is moved by the Holy Spirit to fulfill the Scriptures?*
- *Are you waiting for the right circumstances for the Word of God to come true?*
- *Are you living in obedience and in a manner not to let the ministry or the Church of God to be blamed?*
- *Are you living in holiness and watching your life closely to obey the Word of God and observe its instructions in daily living?*
- *Are you a person who fear God and will not postponed the work of God for tomorrow but will do your best to finish it?*
- *Are you a person who knows his rights and the rights of others.*

Let us come to God in repentance and willingness to be changed and to follow the instructions that we receive from God’s Word.

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 thank you for your message that taught me to surrender my life and my will unto you.

Ask God forgiveness for all your sins; renounce pride, doing your own will, breaking the Scripture and not fulfilling them, being rash and going after your flesh and worldly desires, and refusing to finish what God had asked you to do, etc. Lord forgive me and I repent from the following sins _____.

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 be humble, to listen and to do the instructions that was given to me from the elders and the church leaders, and to report to them how I accomplished what they asked me to do. Lord I surrender my life and my will into your hand, Lord I humble myself into your hand, Lord guide me, I am willing to do your will in full and to go through the plan that you had ordained for me to pass through. 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 I pray for my brothers and sisters who committed themselves to the principles of the message, Lord guide them and lead them step by step to do the good plan that you have for them. Lord protect them, sustain them and provide for them. Lord reward them for every act of obedience and in submission to your plan and will.

Lord I pray that you will help us as a church to implement your Word and the teaching we receive in this message. Lord as we humble ourselves in your hand you will left us up in due time. 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 11. Ruth 3:12-18.

Dr. Ramiz Khalaf
The Church Overseer
Church of God
United Arab Emirates
www.churchofgoduae.com
Email: thebread1@gmail.com
Mobile Tel #: 00971551902647

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