

**BOOK OF RUTH**  
**IN THE FIELD OF GRACE**  
**RUTH 2:4-17**

**Introduction:**

**RUTH** was a widow from **MOAB**. In the mind of the average **ISRAELITE**, she would have been less than nothing and looked upon as a person to be despised and rejected.

**RUTH** had a moved on from her former life of **IDOLATRY** to embrace the **LORD GOD** of **ISRAEL!** She, along with her mother-in-law **NAOMI** were desperately needing someone to show her some **GRACE** they were in need of food. We saw how *Verses 2-3* told us that she went out to hunt for food. This involved her entering fields that belonged to total strangers to her and falling in line behind that man's servants who were reaping the fields and trying to find a little grain here and there. (*i.e. gleaning*)

She was looking for just enough to make meals for herself and her mother-in-law for the day. *Verse 2* tells us that she went out looking "*for grace*". *Verse 3* describes how she found it!

Even though **RUTH** didn't know it at the time, the **LORD** was directing her steps to bring her face to face with a man by the name of **BOAZ**. When she went to glean in his field, she entered **THE FIELD OF GRACE**.

Last time we said that **BOAZ** is a **TYPE** or **PICTURE** of the **LORD JESUS CHRIST**. His actions in his field that day show us how the **LORD JESUS** acts toward those of us who are in **HIS FIELD—the CHURCH**.

I want us to consider **RUTH** and **BOAZ** as we find **RUTH** "*IN THE FIELD OF GRACE*." I want you to notice the picture that **BOAZ** paints of the **LORD JESUS CHRIST** and some lessons he teaches us about our **LORD!**

**I. WE NOTICE BOAZ'S CONSIDERING WORK. (Vs. 4-7)**

**A. He Was Present In His Field. (Vs. 4-5a)**

In the same way, our heavenly **BOAZ (JESUS CHRIST)** is **EVER PRESENT** in **HIS FIELD!**

*Matthew 28:20*—"I am with you always, even unto the end of the world."

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*Hebrews 13:5*—"I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee."

**1. His Presence Was Personal. (Vs. 4)**

Just as our **LORD'S PRESENCE** is **PERSONAL!**  
*Revelation 2:1*—"These things saith he that holdeth the seven stars in his right hand, who walketh in the midst of the seven golden candlesticks;"

**2. His Presence Was By Proxy. (Vs. 5)**

Just as **JESUS**, though **HE'S** in heaven today is ever present with **BELIEVERS** by **HIS SPIRIT!**  
*John 14:16-18*.

**3. His Presence Was Pleasant.**

Note the gracious greeting between **BOAZ** and his servants. (*Vs. 4*)

**JESUS** never brings strife or trouble, but always the breath of Heaven and the fragrant breezes of glory!  
*Psalms 16:11*—"Thou wilt show me the path of life: in thy presence is fulness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore."

*He Was Present In His Field...*

**B. He Was Perceptive Of His Field. (V. 5b-7)**

**BOAZ** kept a constant watch on his fields. In the same way, our heavenly **BOAZ (JESUS CHRIST)** misses nothing that transpires in **HIS** field.

*Proverbs 15:3*—"The eyes of the **LORD** are in every place, beholding the evil and the good."

*Matthew 10:29-31*—"Are not two sparrows sold for a farthing? and one of them shall not fall on the ground without your Father. But the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear ye not therefore, ye are of more value than many sparrows."

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The **LORD'S** eyes are on **HIS CHURCH** and **HE** misses nothing that happens. But, **HE** is also interested in us as individuals!

**1. His Perception Was Personal. (Vs. 5b)**

**RUTH** caught **BOAZ'S** eye! Just as **JESUS** loves the **CHURCH**, but **HE** also loves us as **INDIVIDUALS!** We have caught **HIS** eye! **HE** cares about us!

*Jeremiah 31:3*—“The LORD hath appeared of old unto me, saying, Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love: therefore with lovingkindness have I drawn thee.”

*Romans 8:38-39*—“For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, 39Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

**2. His Perception Was Powerful. (Vs. 6-7)**

**BOAZ** wanted to know about her background, her activities and her motives.

**JESUS** knows everything there is to know about us without even asking anyone, and yet **HE** still loves us and desires to be with us. I find that amazing!

**HE** calls us saints and yet we are not worthy alone!  
**HE** calls us friends and yet again we are not worthy!  
That is nothing but **GRACE**, pure and simple!

*WE NOTICE BOAZ'S CONSIDERING WORK.*

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**II. WE NOTICE BOAZ'S COMMANDING WORK. (Vs. 8-9)**

**BOAZ** had a few words of counsel for **RUTH**. These commands were designed to encourage her in her work of gleaning. They should also speak to us today as well!

**A. We See His Command Concerning Ruth's Steadfastness.**

**(Vs. 8-9a)** **RUTH** was commanded to glean in his fields only. **SHE** didn't know it, but **BOAZ** had plans to take care of her. If she would just abide in his field, she would enjoy the best that he had to offer.

The same is true for the **CHILD OF GOD**. If we will abide faithful in the **LORD'S** field, **HE** will bless us beyond our wildest dreams!

*1 Corinthians 15:57-58*—“But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. 58 Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.”

The reason so many miss out on the **LORD'S** best for their lives is that they don't abide in the **LORD'S** field. They glean here and there looking for satisfaction in other places, but they never settle down and make the **LORD'S** will their number one priority!

We can't decide to just glean wherever and whenever we want and expect **GOD** to bless us!

**GOD is looking for faithful stewards! (1 Corinthians 4:2)**

*We See His Command Concerning Ruth's Steadfastness...*

**B. We See His Command Concerning Ruth's Safety. (Vs. 9b)**

**BOAZ** had commanded the men to leave her alone.

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**BOAZ** was making sure that no one took unfair advantage of **RUTH**. He was telling her not to worry, he had taken care of the details for her and she could trust him to look after her!

What a lesson there is for the **BELIEVER** in that right there!  
We can **TRUST** our **LORD** to take care of us!

**HE** is more concerned over our welfare than we are!

***Romans 8:28**–“And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.”*

***2 Corinthians 4:17**–“For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory.”*

*His Command Concerning Ruth’s Steadfastness... Safety...*

- C. **We See His Command Concerning Ruth's Supply.**  
(Vs. 9c) **BOAZ** made sure she knew that he had everything she needed to be satisfied. So it is with the **CHILDREN OF THE LORD**. **HE** has all we need to be satisfied as we walk through this world. If only we would learn to appropriate that which **HE** has already provided! **JESUS** has and is all we need!

He is rest for the weary! ***Matthew 11:28, Psalm 23:2-3.***

He is refreshment for the thirsty! ***John 7:37, Psalm 23:2.***

He is food for the hungry! ***John 6:35; Psalm 23:5.***

He is healing to the injured! ***Psalm 23:5.***

He is hope for the discouraged! ***Psalm 23:5-6.***

He is shelter for the frightened! ***Psalm 23:4.***

He is all we need!

It is summed up in ***Psalm 23:1*** - "The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want."

*BOAZ’S CONSIDERING WORK...COMMANDING WORK...*

Next week, LORD willing, we’ll see his COMFORTING WORK.