

“Coverage” (2)

“Behold, a king will reign in righteousness, and princes will rule in justice. Each will be like a hiding place from the wind, a shelter from the storm, like streams of water in a dry place, like the shade of a great rock in a weary land.” (Isaiah 32: 1-2)

Ruth’s Realization

Ruth 1:16-17, 22 – (16) “But Ruth said, ‘Do not urge me to leave you or to return from following you. For where you go I will go, and where you lodge I will lodge. Your people shall be my people, and your God my God. (17) Where you die I will die, and there will I be buried. May the LORD do so to me and more also if anything but death parts me from you. (22) So Naomi returned, and Ruth the Moabite her daughter-in-law with her, who returned from the country of Moab. And they came to Bethlehem at the beginning of barley harvest.”

Ruth’s Reliability

Ruth 2:2-3 – (2) “And Ruth the Moabite said to Naomi, ‘Let me go to the field and glean among the ears of grain after him in whose sight I shall find favor.’ And she said to her, ‘Go, my daughter.’ (3) So she set out and went and gleaned in the field after the reapers, and she happened to come to the part of the field belonging to Boaz, who was of the clan of Elimelech.”

Ruth Recognized

Ruth 2:10-12 – (10) “Then [Ruth] fell on her face, bowing to the ground, and said to him, ‘Why have I found favor in your eyes, that you should take notice of me, since I am a foreigner?’ (11) But Boaz answered her, ‘All that you have done for your mother-in-law since the death of your husband has been fully told to me, and how you left your father and mother and your native land and came to a people that you did not know before. (12) The LORD repay you for what you have done, and a full reward be given you by the LORD, the God of Israel, under whose wings you have come to take refuge!’”

Ruth 3:1-11 – (1) “Then Naomi her mother-in-law said to her, ‘My daughter, should I not seek rest for you, that it may be well with you?’ (2) Is not Boaz our relative, with whose young women you were? See, he is winnowing barley tonight at the threshing floor. (3) Wash therefore and anoint yourself, and put on your cloak

and go down to the threshing floor, but do not make yourself known to the man until he has finished eating and drinking. (4) But when he lies down, observe the place where he lies. Then go and uncover his feet and lie down, and he will tell you what to do.' (5) And she replied, 'All that you say I will do.' (6) So she went down to the threshing floor and did just as her mother-in-law had commanded her. (7) And when Boaz had eaten and drunk, and his heart was merry, he went to lie down at the end of the heap of grain. Then she came softly and uncovered his feet and lay down. (8) At midnight the man was startled and turned over, and behold, a woman lay at his feet! (9) He said, 'Who are you?' And she answered, 'I am Ruth, your servant. Spread your wings over your servant, for you are a redeemer.' (10) And he said, 'May you be blessed by the LORD, my daughter. You have made this last kindness greater than the first in that you have not gone after young men, whether poor or rich. (11) And now, my daughter, do not fear. I will do for you all that you ask, for all my fellow townsmen know that you are a worthy woman.'"

Ruth's Restraint

Ruth 3:16-18 – (16) "And when she came to her mother-in-law, she said, 'How did you fare, my daughter?' Then she told her all that the man had done for her, (17) saying, 'These six measures of barley he gave to me, for he said to me, You must not go back empty-handed to your mother-in-law.' (18) She replied, 'Wait, my daughter, until you learn how the matter turns out, for the man will not rest but will settle the matter today.'"

Ruth's Reward

Ruth 4:13 – "So Boaz took Ruth, and she became his wife. And he went in to her, and the LORD gave her conception, and she bore a son."

Key Point: Submission Positions one for Blessing

Questions:

What impacted me the most in this message?

Is there someone I consider "coverage" in my life?

As one who has grown in God, am I providing coverage for someone?

Do I have resentment in my heart towards this concept of coverage?

(Numbers 16:3-4; Jude 8; 3 John 9)

(ESV used unless otherwise noted)