

Ruth 2 Observations

Ruth 2:1-3. God's Providential Direction of Ruth into the Field of Boaz, Naomi's Relative.

September 11, 2023

2:1. Who? Now Naomi had a relative of her husband's, a man of might (*gibôr*, [1368](#)), (*chayil*, [2428](#)) valor, ability of the clan of Elimelech, whose name was Boaz. ([1162](#)) "Fleetness" (ESV says, "Now Naomi had a relative of her husband's, a worthy man of the clan of Elimelech, whose name was Boaz.")

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2:2 Who? And Ruth the Moabite said to Naomi

What? Let me go Where? To the field What? And glean among the ears of grain after whom? After him in whose sight I shall find favor (*chēn*) [2580](#), "grace, favor, acceptance"

What did Naomi reply? And she said to her, "Go, my daughter."

2:3 What? So she set out and went and gleaned in the field after the reapers,

What else? And she happened to come to the part of the field belonging to WHO? Boaz, who was of the clan of Elimelech.

WHY? Why did she happen to come to a part of the field belonging to Boaz? [Obviously, it was the unseen, yet deliberate hand of God.] As far as Boaz and Ruth were concerned, this arrival of Ruth at Boaz' field was a total coincidence. But not so to God!!!

So What? God, through His own providence, guides us to places and positions in which we can have a remarkable ministry serving Him and others!

Ruth 2:4-7. Boaz Discovers Ruth.

2:4. WHO? And behold, Boaz came from WHERE? Bethlehem.

What did he say? And to whom? He said to the reapers, "The LORD be with you!"

How did they reply? And they answered, The LORD be with you!"

So what? It is remarkable that Boaz is a man whose every-day conversation exhibits his Godliness. There is a spill-over benefit to Boaz' workers!

2:5. What did Boaz say next? Then Boaz said to WHOM? to his young man who was in charge of the reapers, “Whose young woman is this?”

What do we make of this? Boaz seemed to keep an eye on his reapers. He knew those who were his and those who were not. We would say he was a “Hands-on” employer.

2:6. What did the foreman say? And the servant who was in charge of the reapers answered,

“She is the young Moabite (Moabitess) woman

who came back with Naomi

from the country of Moab.

2:7. She said, “Please let me glean and gather among the sheaves after the reapers.”

So she came, and she has continued from early morning until now, except for a short rest.”

Ruth 2:8-13. Boaz Extends Favor to Ruth, Who is Amazed and Appreciative.

2:8 So what did Boaz do? Then Boaz said to WHOM? To Ruth,

“Now listen, my daughter, do not go to glean in another field or leave this one,

But keep close to my young women.

So what? Boaz linked Ruth safely with his young women.

2:9 “Let your eyes be on the field that they are reaping, and go after them.”

“Have I not charged the young men not to touch you?

So what? Boaz informed Ruth of her safety with his men.

And when you are thirsty, go to the vessels and drink what the young men have drawn.”

2:10. What did Ruth do?

Then she fell on her face, bowing to the ground.

What did she say? And said to him,

“Why have I found favor – (*chēn*) [2580](#), “grace, favor, acceptance” – in your eyes, that you should take notice of me,

Why? Since I am a foreigner?

2:11. How did Boaz respond? 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.

2:12. What else? 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!”

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2:13. Who? Ruth. What did she say? Then she said,

“I have found favor *chēn* (2580), “favor, acceptance” in your eyes, my lord,

Why? for you have comforted me and spoken kindly to your servant, (*shifchá*) (8198)

“maid, maidservant, slave-girl (figurative, showing humility)

though I am not one of your servants” (*shifchá*) (8198) “maids, maidservants, slave-girls.”

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Ruth 2:14-16. Boaz’ Further Favors (Grace) Toward Ruth.

2:14. When? At mealtime

Who? Boaz to Ruth.

What? Boaz said to her: “Come here and eat some bread and dip your morsel in the wine.”

What happened?

So she sat beside the reapers,

And he passed to her roasted grain.

And she ate until she was satisfied

How much? And she had some left over.

2:15. When? When she rose to glean,

What? Boaz instructed his young men, saying,

“Let her glean even among the sheaves, and do not reproach her.

2:16 And also pull out some from the bundles for her and leave it for her to glean,

And do not rebuke her.

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Ruth 2:17-23. Ruth is spectacularly favored, working in the harvest fields of Boaz, her near Relative Redeemer!

2:17. What? So she gleaned in the field When? Until evening.

What? Then she beat out what she had gleaned.

How much was it? And it was about an ephah of barley. (How much was that? According to [Constable](#), it would have been equal to about 3/5 of a bushel of barley, or about 36 pounds. This was equivalent to half a month's wages, but she had gained this amount in a single day! At the end of the day she beat out the grain from the stalks and took the harvested grain home.)

2:18. What did she do next? And she took it up and went into the city.

What happened next? Her mother-in-law saw what she had gleaned.

What did Ruth do? She also brought out and gave her what food she had left over after being satisfied.

2:19. How did Naomi respond? And her mother-in-law said to her,

“Where did you glean today?

And where have you worked?

Blessed be the man who took notice of you.”

How did Ruth respond?

So she told her mother-in-law with whom she had worked and said,

“The man’s name with whom I worked today is Boaz.”

2:20. What was Naomi's response? And Naomi said to her daughter-in-law,

“May he be blessed by the LORD, whose kindness has not forsaken the living or the dead!”

Naomi also said to her, “The man is a close relative of ours, one of our redeemers.” ([Qal Participle Masculine Plural Absolute](#) from the verb [1350](#) gā'al = “Relative-Redeemer”

2:21. What else did Ruth say? And Ruth the Moabitess said,

“Besides, he said to me, You shall keep close by my young men until they have finished all my harvest.”

2:22. How did Naomi respond? And Naomi said to Ruth, her daughter-in-law,

“It is good, my daughter, that you go out with his young women,
lest in another field you be assaulted.”

2:23. What was the upshot?

So she kept close to the young women of Boaz,
gleaning until the end of the barley and wheat harvests.
And she lived with her mother-in-law.”