

HOPE IN HARD TIMES

(The Book of Ruth) #4:

“Fields of Grace”

Ruth 2:1-13

I. WE SEE GRACE UNFOLDING IN THE ACTIVITY OF GOD BEHIND THE SCENES

Ruth 2:1-3

THE THREE MAIN FEASTS OF ISRAEL:

1. Feast of Passover (at Barley Harvest)
Symbolizing Justification
2. Feast of Pentecost (at Wheat Harvest)
Symbolizing Sanctification
3. Feast of Tabernacles (at Grape Harvest)
Symbolizing Glorification

THE BARLEY HARVEST SHOWS US HOW GOD IS AT WORK BEHIND THE SCENES ABOUT TO FILL:

- A. Empty Hearts
- B. Empty Stomachs
- C. Empty Wombs
- D. Empty Futures

II. WE SEE GRACE UNFOLDING IN THE HUMILITY OF RUTH BEFORE THE MASTER

Ruth 2:4-9

RUTH IS A PICTURE OF ALL WHO COME BEFORE THE MASTER:

- A. What She Had To Face
Was Insurmountable
- B. What She Had To Offer
Was Insufficient
- C. What She Had To Accept
Was Inscrutable

III. WE SEE GRACE
UNFOLDING IN THE
GENEROSITY OF BOAZ
BEYOND THE NORM
Ruth 2:10-13

Elimelech (My God is King)
Naomi (Pleasant, Delightful)
Mahlon (Sickly, Pining Away)
Kilion (The End of the Line)
Orpah (Back of the Neck)
Ruth (Companion)
Marah (Bitter)

**Boaz =
“quickness”**

quick·en

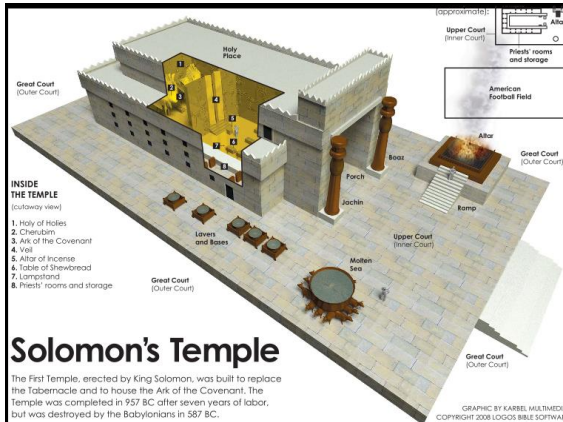
'kwikən/

verb

1. make or become faster or quicker.
“she quickened her pace, desperate to escape”
2. spring to life; become animated.
“her interest quickened”

Boaz =
The Name of One
of Two Great Pillars
of Solomon’s Temple
in Jerusalem

**1. “Boaz”:
He Will Enliven**
**2. “Jachin”:
He Will Establish**



Boaz is one of numerous "Types" of Jesus Christ in the Old Testament.

Note Four Significant Things About Boaz:

- THE RELATION HE SHARES
- THE POSITION HE HOLDS
- THE OBLIGATION HE FEELS
- THE ATTENTION HE GIVES

BOAZ THE LIFE-GIVER WAS A "RELATIVE" OF ELIMELECH

For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God. The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, "Abba, Father." The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children. Now if we are children, then we are heirs - heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ...

Romans 8:14-17a

Boaz the Life-Giver Held a Very High Position In Bethlehem of Judah:

- His Fields Meant That The Lives of Bethlehem's Workers Were Filled With Work
- His Fields Meant That The Ovens Of Bethlehem's Bakeries Were Filled With Dough
- His Fields Meant That The Stomachs of Bethlehem's Citizens Were Filled With Food

“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life...”

John 1:1-4

“When you reap the harvest of your land, do not reap to the very edges of your field or gather the gleanings of your harvest. Leave them for the poor and for the foreigner residing among you.

I am the LORD your God.”

Leviticus 23:22

“Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. I tell you the truth, until heaven and earth disappear, not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen, will by any means disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished. Anyone who breaks one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever practices and teaches these commands will be called great in the kingdom of heaven.”

Matthew 5:17-19

Boaz’s OCCUPATION was of one very highly esteemed; but his PREOCCUPATION was with one very lowly esteemed!

Boaz the Life-Giver Was Preoccupied With One Lowly Esteemed:

- A. Despite Ruth’s Lowly Status, Boaz Took The Initiative In Inquiring About Her**
- B. Despite Ruth’s Lowly Status, Boaz Took The Initiative In Conversing With Her**
- C. Despite Ruth’s Lowly Status, Boaz Took The Initiative In Providing For Her**

VICTORY IN JESUS

By Eugene Monroe Bartlett

“He sought me, and bought me, with His redeeming Love. He loved me e’er I knew Him, and all my love is due him...”

**“We love him, because
he first loved us.”**

1 John 4:19 KJV