

What a Motley Crew, but What A Chosen Crew!

Ruth 1

God chose quite a Motley Crew of women with checkered pasts and terrible reputations.
Lives filled with sin, mistakes, deception and all manner of evil!

Genealogies...

Luke starts with Jesus and goes all the way back to Adam. Matthew starts with Abraham and finishes at Joseph, husband of Mary.

Matt includes only men (fathers...other than Mary) Luke includes 5 women...
Tamar, Rahab, Ruth, that woman who was married to Uriah, then Mary.

HISTORY DOES NOT MATTER

Do not know the parents of Mary, Ruth, David

HERITAGE DOES NOT MATTER

26% of the line of the Jewish Messiah was not Jewish; 4 that we know of were Canaanites

RUTH: A Moabitess; Descendant of Lot; Balak, King of Moab hired Balaam to curse Israel

“HOLINESS” DOES NOT MATTER

Notice that “holiness” is in quotes...holiness does matter, but I think you will see...
It's not where you came from, *it's where you are going*. It's not what you were, *it's what you are now*.

For instance: No mention of Esther having any children nor Deborah the judge.

If I was going to create a messiah, King of the Jews, *I think I would want Esther and Deborah to be in that lineage.*

Instead, we have...

TAMAR the Canaanite...the daughter-in-law of Judah. What a story (Gen 38)

RAHAB a Moabite (Descendent of Lot...only God knows what was in her bloodline from Sodom and Gomorrah)
A prostitute in Jericho. If you read the story closely, she must have been well-known to the King

Rahab, mother of Boaz; Boaz and Ruth begot Obed, Obed-Jesse, Jesse-David

These women became the grandmothers of David, King of Israel.

These people were not holy, they were chosen. But after they were chosen, ***they showed us what true holiness is!***

Holiness is choosing not to do one thing, so you can do the other thing. Choosing to separate from the world, to the Body of Christ

We serve the God of History that can change a history and make it ***His Story!***

Ladies (and gentlemen) ALWAYS DO IT GOD'S WAY!

Because, History-Heritage-holiness do not matter...BUT

PROVIDENCE MATTERS

There are many concepts that the story of Ruth teaches us: devotion, compassion, perseverance, redemption...*providence*.

Provision occurs where perseverance and providence meet.

(or) Provision = providence + perseverance; (or) *Don't give up, God's doing something!*

Ruth did not give up until her Boaz came!

Ruth did not know where her Boaz was, who...or even *if there even was a Boaz*.

She just kept gleaning...believing...listening...obeying...laboring...