

Ruth – The Beautiful Pearl
Wednesday Noon Bible Study
Good Shepherd Baptist Church
Pastor Walter L. Ratcliffe, Senior Pastor
Pastor Henry Wallace, Guest Instructor



Lesson Three We pick up our study in the Book of Ruth as Ruth and her mother-in-law are entering the city of Bethlehem. As was mentioned earlier, Ruth was in the land of Israel by the Grace of God. In today's lesson we will pay very close attention to the words of Naomi. OH, how I love to look at these verses here in **Ruth Chapter 1**

1st Point **How God Gets HIS Saints To Return To Him (1:20)**

- **.. the Almighty hath dealt very bitterly with me...** Naomi said the LORD has dealt with me personally.
- Listening to what Naomi says here provides you and me a powerful lesson
- The lesson is what is taught in **Hebrews 12:6 In whom the Lord loveth HE chasteneth** (disciplines) **and scourgeth every son whom HE receiveth.**
- **Why did God deal with Naomi and such a way ? Why does God deal with us in the way HE does?**
- **Because HE loves us**
- **We are HIS children.**
- Remember what the Lord allowed to happen in the life of the prodigal son to bring him to the point where he would go back home ?

2nd Point **The Before And After (5:21)**

- *Naomi said; I left full; I returned empty-handed.*
- Note the difference between what Naomi says and what the Lord says and does.
- **God has to empty us, before HE can fill us.**

3rd Point **How We See Our Situation Versus How God Sees Our Situation (1:22 ..and they came to Bethlehem in the beginning of the barley harvest)**

- It's amazing how I look at things in my life, versus how God looks at the things in my life.
- Naomi thought she was returning empty-handed, but in fact she had Ruth and she had arrived just when the harvest was ripe.
- There is always hope when we return to the Lord
- **Saints, we need to believe and live in the hope that is in Christ Jesus.**

Let me challenge you and me, that when we are going through a trial or difficulty, to turn our eyes and hearts to these verses, and know that **OUR HOPE IS IN THE NAME OF THE LORD !**

Romans 5:2 say:

By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

Romans 15:4 say:

For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope.

Romans 15:13 says:

Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Ghost.

Colossians 1:5 says:

For the hope which is laid up for you in heaven, whereof ye heard before in the word of the truth of the gospel;

Colossians 1:27 says:

To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory:

2 Thessalonians 2:16

Now our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God, even our Father, which hath loved us, and hath given us everlasting consolation and good hope through grace.

Titus 1:2

In hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began.

Titus 2:13

Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ;

4th Point A Life Guided By God (2:1-3)

- Saints, that the life that God commands us to live. (**Proverbs 3:5-6**)
- Another person now enters this story.
- A man, not just any man, but a man led by God to come into the life of Ruth.
- A man with outstanding qualities. A man named Boaz.
- In **2:1** we read, .. **a mighty man of wealth..** *which means a man of standing, a man of valor who is capable efficient, and worthy in battle.*
- **Dear Sister**, God's plans are always the very best.
- **Let's stop settling for "just anything".**
- Remember what I said in the beginning of our study, that the Book of Ruth needs to be studied by every young man and young woman.
- The young man needs to know what kind of a man God requires.
- The young woman needs to know what kind of a man she should be accepting, spending time with, getting to know.