Meditations from the Book of Ruth Part 6

We will continue in this message what we had started meditating from the book of Ruth.

Hope in God after repentance give us the right mind to think of good thoughts and to take the right step in life as we read here, "And Ruth the Moabitess said unto Naomi, Let me now go to the field, and glean ears of corn after him in whose sight I shall find grace. And she said unto her, Go, my daughter." (Ruth 2:2 KJV) Ruth here took the decision to work; she was humble, she was not choosy, she went and chose the work that she can do and the work that is available. In the same way you need to be diligent, productive, humble and not choosy in your life, to go and work in the work that you know and the work that is available.

Ruth asked the permission from her mother in law. <u>Do you take permission from those</u> who are elder than you to go and do certain things? Do you think that Ruth will go and work if her mother in law did not allow her? This is how the blessing of God will be imparted to you if you will not break rules, jump over the fence, and cross borders that you should not do. Why she asked permission from her? Because she is elder in age, she knew better in life, and she knew the place better.

Ruth took the initiative to work. She was responsible on herself and on her mother in law. She was humble, and she was willing to bend her back to secure living for her and her mother in law. <u>Repentance is not only we turn away from our sins and be responsible on the wrong that we did, but to be responsible to finish our duties and responsibilities</u>. She was responsible on her mother in law as the Word of God dictates to care for widows, "3 Honour widows that are widows indeed. 4 But if any widow have children or nephews, let them learn first to shew piety at home, and to requite their parents: for that is good and acceptable before God. 16 If any man or woman that believeth have widows, let them relieve them, and let not the church be charged; that it may relieve them that are widows indeed." (1 Timothy 5:3-4, 16 KJV) Here Ruth inspired by the Holy Spirit took the initiative to work to relief herself and her mother in law. Keep inspired by the Holy Spirit and take the initiative to go and do what He is leading you to do. so that your needs and those who are with you will be met.

Based on her hope on God, Ruth chose to accept what God had provided for her, "9 And when ye reap the harvest of your land, thou shalt not wholly reap the corners of thy field, neither shalt thou gather the gleanings of thy harvest. 10 And thou shalt not glean thy vineyard, neither shalt thou gather every grape of thy vineyard; thou shalt leave them for the poor and stranger: I am the LORD your God." (Leviticus 19:9-10 KJV) "And when ye reap the harvest of your land, thou shalt not make clean riddance of the corners of thy field when thou reapest, neither shalt thou gather any gleaning of thy harvest: thou shalt leave them unto the poor, and to the stranger: I am the LORD your God." (Leviticus 23:22 KJV) She was poor and stranger and accepted to go and find her food where God had placed it. Learn also here to be considerate to the poor and needy and help them by allowing some of your blessings will go unto them. Our decisions that we make will show clearly if we are repenting or not. Ruth showed her repentance and humility when she decided to go and glean. Her decision was made based on the Scriptures, and she trusted God that he will lead her to the place that she will receive her provision.

Ruth did not think to go and borrow money and live on someone else work. She did not think to go and borrow money and start business. Ruth humbled herself and started to work to receive the help of God through His grace that she will found in the eyes of the people around her. Her mother in law also agreed with her and let her go and work..

Ruth humbled herself and that is why the Lord lifted her up in due time. That is what the Word of God states, "6 Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time: 7 Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you." (1 Peter 5:6-7 KJV) To the opposite of that, are those people who exalt themselves, then the Lord shall put them down, "For every one that exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted." (Luke 18:14 KJV) Ruth was humble before God that is why the Lord lifted her up, as we know from the story the good things that the Lord did to her. The same for you now in order to live and to meet your needs, you need to be humble, not to think about high things and have dreams, but to be satisfied with what is available and what you can afford, therefore go and work in whatever job you can so that all your needs will be met and the Lord shall do to you good things.

"And Ruth the Moabitess said unto Naomi, Let me now go to the field, and glean ears of corn after him in whose sight I shall find grace. And she said unto her, Go, my daughter." (Ruth 2:2 KJV) Naomi when replied to Ruth, she told her, "Go my daughter." See here that Naomi has now daughter. She lost her two sons and her husband, but now she has a daughter. When we humble ourselves into the mighty hand of God, and start to obey Him, He will restore us and He will add to us new and good things into our lives. He will add to us what is good and what is perfect.

"And she went, and came, and gleaned in the field after the reapers: and her hap was to light on a part of the field belonging unto Boaz, who was of the kindred of Elimelech." (Ruth 2:3 KJV) This had taken place not by chance that she found herself gleaning in the field of Boaz who is their kinsman, from the kindred of Elimelech. As she humbled herself before God, had hope on Him, trusted on His Word, the Lord led her by His Holy Spirit to reach the right place. When there is humility then there is wisdom and there is lifting up. When people humble down the wisdom of God will flow through them and will be manifested with their fruitful work. "Who is a wise man and endued with knowledge among you? let him shew out of a good conversation his works with meekness of wisdom." (James 3:13 KJV) Meekness will invite more blessings of God in the people's lives, "Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth." (Matthew 5:5 KJV) As well as when the people humble down they will be led by the Holy Spirit as being the children of God, "For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God." (Romans 8:14 KJV) The prove that we are the children of God is that when we are led by the Holy Spirit to go to certain places, that in no doubt we are led by God to move to such.

"And, behold, Boaz came from Bethlehem, and said unto the reapers, The LORD be with you. And they answered him, The LORD bless thee." (Ruth 2:4 KJV) Here Boaz came from Bethlehem, possibly he was doing some work and transactions, but the work in the farm and the field was going well. The work was prosperous and there were people in charge in his stead doing the work. Worthy to mention here that Boaz stayed in Bethlehem during the famine and his work and his farm prospered.

"And, behold, Boaz came from Bethlehem, and said unto the reapers, The LORD be with you. And they answered him, The LORD bless thee." (Ruth 2:4 KJV) The greeting of Boaz to the reapers, "The LORD be with you", are not ritual words but a real invitation to all the blessings of God in their lives.

"The LORD be with you", is to supply your needs, to protect you, to lead you, to heal you, to guide you, to give you strength and support you in all your undertakings. <u>Our</u> greetings should not be rituals but prayers and real wishes in our hearts toward whom we are greeting. They answered him with the same blessings of God, "The LORD bless thee." Even in our greetings to the people we invite God in the midst of us and bring His blessings and presence to others. When we greet the people we need to have good wishes to them, and that is our honesty and our integrity toward the people that we are dealing with.

"Then said Boaz unto his servant that was set over the reapers, Whose damsel is this?" (Ruth 2:5 KJV) So here we found that Boaz had placed a person over the reapers to supervise the work for the best interest of Boaz. He supposes to do all what Boaz will do to the field. The Bible teaches us that there must be a person in charge over the group of workers to supervise the work and to monitor the progress of it, the achievement of each person, and if there is obstacles or delayings that need to be tackled. The person in charge should be given certain authority to let the work go on smoothly and had the privilege to take certain decisions about simple matter and to contact the person over him in tackling a big and complicated matter.

"Then said Boaz unto his servant that was set over the reapers, Whose damsel is this?" (Ruth 2:5 KJV) Boaz was very discerning to discover the new person in his field. That also show that he knew very well what was going in his field of work. He knew his workers because he discovered immediately the new girl that was working. How about a boss who does not know his workers and will keep asking about the people who are long time working with him but he doesn't know them?

Boaz was also confident of what he was doing as immediately asked about the new working girl, "*Whose damsel is this?*" He asked the servant who was over the reaper, and he expected from him that he will give him the answer. So here we can see the protocol and the organization that was in the field of Boaz. <u>In the same way we need to do certain arrangement to let the work and the ministry to go on and will not hindered if we are moving from place to place to finish other work, putting in our minds to keep certain people in charge of what is going on in our absence, and that they should report to us what was going on in our absence and should keep order, should keep our instruction to them, and the routine of the work that is usually taking place.</u>

"Whose damsel is this?" Boaz was quick to ask about the girl, being aware that she was sent by God to his place for a certain purpose. Here his question to ask, whose girl is this?, was to find out what was the purpose of God in sending this new girl to his place. As well as his question is to find out what in his responsibility that he need to do for this girl. *Therefore, now you need to be aware that there is a purpose of God in allowing you*

to meet a person and bring him or her into your life; you need to be discerning about that and you need to grasp that purpose and what God wanting from you to know and to do.

"And the servant that was set over the reapers answered and said, It is the Moabitish damsel that came back with Naomi out of the country of Moab:" (Ruth 2:6 KJV) So the answer of that servant showed that he was honest person to Boaz in his work. He gave him a perfect answer that gives healing to the soul and satisfaction to the person who asked the question. He gave a satisfactory descriptions and details. He gave the nationality of the girl, being Moabitish, linked with Naomi, and third she came back accompanied Naomi in coming back to Bethlehem and to the people of God. So he is telling him, this is the woman, who came back repenting; the daughter of Naomi, who left her family in Moab and she willingly came to live with us. In the same way, you need to be ready and prepared to give a satisfactory answer with adequate details to the person above you, as you are a responsible person over certain people that God had placed under your care.

"7 And she said, I pray you, let me glean and gather after the reapers among the sheaves: so she came, and hath continued even from the morning until now, that she tarried a little in the house." (Ruth 2:7 KJV) The servant further described how and why he accepted her to work in the field. Ruth asked favor and permission from that supervisor in order to allow her to glean and gather after the reapers. So here we need to understand that we need to get permission before we move into any place to work. So he allowed her to come in based on the instruction of God's Word in Leviticus to allow strangers to come and glean, So here we need to understand that whatever permission we give or whatever we do need to go along the Scripture and what the Word of God dictates on us. He further described her diligence and her attitude when he said, "so she came, and hath continued even from the morning until now, that she tarried a little in the house." Ruth was a diligent worker, she went there to work and earn her living, therefore she did not spend her time in talking or gossiping with other girls, nor wasted time to slouch and take rest while she is working. Many of those who are working, they waste much time in talking, eating, gossiping, using their mobiles, going to bath rooms, every now and then excuses, checking their Facebook, etc. In the same way you need to be conscious about time; you need to be keen and keep your time and work diligently and reproduce much avoiding wasting time on mobiles, gossips or being slow in work.

* See here characters and attitudes of workers are checked always and scrutinized and based on them the report is given to the boss. * Many times people who has work they are not having blessing because they are dishonest, being non diligent in doing the work and wasting much of the work time. Such will make them also to lack the favor from their boss and superiors, and lack the promotion from God and from man. The bad report that will be presented it to their boss will make them loss the favor of their boss.

That servant gave a very clear report from the first day about the good work of Ruth. Sure with such report, this man can report every person under him precisely to his boss, Boaz. <u>We</u> <u>understand from the story of Ruth here, is that it is right and correct for the boss to know and</u> to be aware of what is going on in the area that God had allocated for him. Some they tell me why you need to know everything? The same question, "Why Boaz needed to know everything?" Because he is a responsible person and need to be aware of what is going on, so he will know what to do and He will do his part.

"8 Then said Boaz unto Ruth, Hearest thou not, my daughter? Go not to glean in another field, neither go from hence, but abide here fast by my maidens: 9 Let thine eyes be on the field that they do reap, and go thou after them: have I not charged the young men that they shall not touch thee? and when thou art athirst, go unto the vessels, and drink of that which the young men have drawn."(Ruth 2:8-9 KJV) Upon the good report of the supervisors upon Ruth she received the favor from Boaz. He was highly impressed with her and her achievement and gave her the assured approval of her work in his field, in giving her further instructions:

1. Go not to glean in another field, neither go from hence: He instructed her to stay and work in his field and not go from there to other fields. He was telling her, that she does not need to go from here searching another work. In the same way you will receive favour and be stable in the work that you are doing.

2. But abide here fast by my maidens: He asked her to stay and abide with the girls so he will secure that she will not be touched by the working men. It is very good policy in the field of Boaz that men are kept with men and girls are kept with girls. It is good to keep the same policy that boys should be kept with boys and girls would be kept by girls.

3. Let thine eyes be on the field that they do reap, and go thou after them: have I not charged the young men that they shall not touch thee: He told her also how to glean, that to move after those who move to reap, that she will put her eyes on them, and once they move to reap she will move to glean. He assured her that she had received the permission to glean and they will not hinder her, as well as she will not be touched by any man. It is a good discipline while work is going on in any place, that men should not touch girls and girls should not touch men.

4. When thou art athirst, go unto the vessels, and drink of that which the young men have drawn: He told her that she can drink water when she is thirsty from that the men had drawn from the well. So there was a well in the field and this work of drawing, possibly because it is a hard work was given for the men to do. <u>It is good to assign hard</u> works for the men to do because their bodies are stronger than the girls.

My dear and beloved: Meditate on what you heard from God's Word, and start to implement in your life, in your work place, in the life of your family, in the life of the people with you and in your ministry.

My Prayer: Father God, I come before you in the name of Jesus, who died on the cross for my sins to give me eternal life. Lord I thank you for your Word and your teaching that I received in this message.

Renounce now all your sins; your worldliness, your pride, your lack of respect for the people above you and those who are elder than you in age and more experience than you in life. Repent of wasting your time on Media, Facebook, gossips, You Tube, etc. Renounce being proud and choosy and being lazy in your work.

Ask God forgiveness for all your sins. Lord forgive me and I repent from the following sins ______.

Lord I commit myself to the teaching that I had received from your Word in this message to do and to act upon it in my life, in my work, in my family and in my ministry. Lord I will do what you asked me to do in this message. Lord I commit myself to show the fruit of the Holy Spirit, love peace, joy, patience, self-control, perseverance, gentleness, kindness, long-suffering, and the rest of the fruit that will show Jesus to others in my life.

Lord I pray for my brothers and sisters who committed themselves to the message that they had received from you. Lord fill them with the Holy Spirit to go and live their lives for you as you taught us in this message.

Lord I pray that you will help us as a church; Lord refills us once again with the Holy Spirit so that we can go and evangelize and make new disciples and complete the work that you ordained for us to do. Lord fulfills your vision to the church, 'Multiplication in peace with implementing the whole will of God'. Lord helps us to plant new Bible studies and new congregations for the church. Lord blesses us and enlarges our territory, let your hands be with us and free us from harm so that we will not feel pain. May the grace of the Lord Jesus and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all in Jesus name, Amen.

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