

The Marriage of Boaz with Ruth Part 1

In this message we will discuss the marriage of Boaz from Ruth the Moabites. Ruth was the widow of Mahlon the son of Elimelech. The story of the family of Elimelech was as the following:

“1 Now it came to pass in the days when the judges ruled, that there was a famine in the land. And a certain man of Bethlehemjudah went to sojourn in the country of Moab, he, and his wife, and his two sons. 2 And the name of the man was Elimelech, and the name of his wife Naomi, and the name of his two sons Mahlon and Chilion, Ephrathites of Bethlehemjudah. And they came into the country of Moab, and continued there. 3 And Elimelech Naomi's husband died; and she was left, and her two sons. 4 And they took them wives of the women of Moab; the name of the one was Orpah, and the name of the other Ruth: and they dwelled there about ten years. 5 And Mahlon and Chilion died also both of them; and the woman was left of her two sons and her husband.” (Ruth 1:1-5 KJV)

So here the widow of Elimelech ended that she had in her house two widows of her two sons who died. Both of them were young and without children. And most likely Naomi had good thoughts of these two widows that ultimately they will have families with children.

Noami also might put in her mind what Paul had said to Timothy of how to handle young widows: ***“11 But the younger widows refuse: for when they have begun to wax wanton against Christ, they will marry; 12 Having damnation, because they have cast off their first faith. 13 And withal they learn to be idle, wandering about from house to house; and not only idle, but tattlers also and busybodies, speaking things which they ought not. 14 I will therefore that the younger women marry, bear children, guide the house, give none occasion to the adversary to speak reproachfully. 15 For some are already turned aside after Satan.” (1 Timothy 5:11-15 KJV)*** Paul made it clear that the dedication of widows to Christ should be stronger than to marry. That is especially true if they have children because they need to raise their children in the fear of the Lord. But young widows, ***“12 Having damnation, because they have cast off their first faith.” (1 Timothy 5:12 KJV)*** would be tempted and overcome with their sensual desires that would ultimately overcome their sincere dedication to Christ. A younger widow may also end up moving from place to place to gossip and speak unnecessary things and would ultimately turn away to follow Satan. Because of all these temptations that we mentioned Paul said the following about younger widows: ***“14 I will therefore that the younger women marry, bear children, guide the house, give none occasion to the adversary to speak reproachfully.” (1 Timothy 5:14 KJV)*** What Paul suggested to them is not the perfect will of God for them and not the ideal things for them to do, especially if they have children, but that is only to make them avoid falling into sin by doing things that they ought not to do.

It is not easy to judge and decide about the remarriage of a widow because there are many factors needed to be considered before this issue to be settled. Here in our discussion about the marriage of Ruth to Boaz there was a valid Biblical reason for this marriage and that was to restore the family line and to handle the inheritance and to resume the ordained ministry of the Lord, and that especially true because Ruth was without children.

Naomi had in her house two widows of her two sons who died. Both of them were young and without children. Therefore when she decided to go back from Moab to Bethlehem, although both they wanted to go back and stay with her, she was not willing to take them because she put in her mind the possibility for them to remarry and get settled in another man's house. Both of them were non-believers and Naomi would not like to take them with her and bear this responsibility of them to remarry.

The following was the discussion and the sermon of Naomi to her two daughters in law, Orpah, and Ruth, at the road of going back to Bethlehem, and the outcome of that meeting was as the following:

“6 Then she arose with her daughters in law, that she might return from the country of Moab: for she had heard in the country of Moab how that the LORD had visited his people in giving them bread. 7 Wherefore she went forth out of the place where she was, and her two daughters in law with her; and they went on the way to return unto the land of Judah. 8 And Naomi said unto her two daughters in law, Go, return each to her mother's house: the LORD deal kindly with you, as ye have dealt with the dead, and with me. 9 The LORD grant you that ye may find rest, each of you in the house of her husband. Then she kissed them; and they lifted up their voice, and wept. 10 And they said unto her, Surely we will return with thee unto thy people. 11 And Naomi said, Turn again, my daughters: why will ye go with me? are there yet any more sons in my womb, that they may be your husbands? 12 Turn again, my daughters, go your way; for I am too old to have an husband. If I should say, I have hope, if I should have an husband also to night, and should also bear sons; 13 Would ye tarry for them till they were grown? would ye stay for them from having husbands? nay, my daughters; for it grieveth me much for your sakes that the hand of the LORD is gone out against me. 14 And they lifted up their voice, and wept again: and Orpah kissed her mother in law; but Ruth clave unto her. 15 And she said, Behold, thy sister in law is gone back unto her people, and unto her gods: return thou after thy sister in law. 16 And Ruth said, Intreat me not to leave thee, or to return from following after thee: for whither thou goest, I will go; and where thou lodgest, I will lodge: thy people shall be my people, and thy God my God: 17 Where thou diest, will I die, and there will I be buried: the LORD do so to me, and more also, if ought but death part thee and me. 18 When she saw that she was stedfastly minded to go with her, then she left speaking unto her. 19 So they two went until they came to Bethlehem. And it came to pass, when they were come to Bethlehem, that all the city was moved about them, and they said, Is this Naomi?” (Ruth 1:6-19 KJV) The following we can learn and conclude from what we read:

I. Naomi put emotions away and used the Word of God in addressing them with the life reality: Both of them, Orpah and Ruth were non-believers, and she told them clearly to go back each to her mother's house, so they might find a husband and have a new family. They were crying and wanted to go back with her, but she made it clear to them if they really wanted to go back with her they need to hear and admit the following: ***“12 Turn again, my daughters, go your way; for I am too old to have an husband. If I should say, I have hope, if I should have an husband also to night, and should also bear sons; 13 Would ye tarry for them till they were grown? would ye stay for them from having husbands? nay, my daughters; for it grieveth me much for your sakes that the hand of the LORD is gone out against me.” (Ruth 1:12-13 KJV)*** Naomi made it clear to them that if they will go back with her then they should not put on her the responsibility to arrange their marriages. The purpose

of Naomi in giving this sermon to them was to differentiate who among the two was of genuine motive to follow God and abide with the perfect will of God and stay with her.

II. Naomi exhortation was fruitful: Orpah left her, but Ruth remained with her *“14 And they lifted up their voice, and wept again: and Orpah kissed her mother in law; but Ruth clave unto her.” (Ruth 1:14 KJV)*

Many people will come to church or pretend they are following Christ but they have an ulterior motive and they are not coming after God. Naomi's message to her two daughters in law, with the fruit that brought up, was what the writer of Hebrews wrote: *“12 For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discernor of the thoughts and intents of the heart.” (Hebrews 4:12 KJV)* Naomi became aware that Orpah was not genuine in her motive and that was why she left her.

III. Naomi further tested the genuine motive of Ruth: Naomi further tested Ruth and challenged her to go back as her sister in law, *“15 And she said, Behold, thy sister in law is gone back unto her people, and unto her gods: return thou after thy sister in law.” (Ruth 1:15 KJV)* Ruth showed her genuine motive that she is after the God of Naomi and she was coming back with her mother in law to care for her mother in law and nothing in her mind about marriage: *“16 And Ruth said, Intreat me not to leave thee, or to return from following after thee: for whither thou goest, I will go; and where thou lodgest, I will lodge: thy people shall be my people, and thy God my God: 17 Where thou diest, will I die, and there will I be buried: the LORD do so to me, and more also, if ought but death part thee and me.” (Ruth 1:16-17 KJV)* Ruth was really with genuine faith and she was after God, and she desired to do God's will. What was in her mind to care for her old mother in law and that was her faithfulness toward God in caring for the old widow, Naomi. In this, Ruth fulfilled the Word of God that says: *“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)* Ruth proved her faithfulness toward God and Naomi with her clear and decisive decision to go back with Naomi. Ruth was obedient to the law of God that the Lord had placed and had written in her heart, *“14 For when the Gentiles, which have not the law, do by nature the things contained in the law, these, having not the law, are a law unto themselves: 15 Which shew the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and their thoughts the mean while accusing or else excusing one another.” (Romans 14:14-15 KJV)* Ruth truly can be considered as a true worshipper of God who worships God in Spirit and truth, *“23 But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him. 24 God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.” (John 4:23-24 KJV)*

The way that Naomi challenged Ruth was the same way that Jesus challenged the twelve disciples when the rest of the disciples left Him; *“67 Then said Jesus unto the twelve, Will ye also go away?” (John 6:67 KJV)* But Simon properly replied to Jesus, *“Then Simon Peter answered him, Lord, to whom shall we go? thou hast the words of eternal life.” (John 6:68 KJV)* Ruth when she was challenged by Naomi to leave her, answered her similar as Peter answered Christ, *“16 And Ruth said, Intreat me not to leave thee, or to return from*

following after thee: for whither thou goest, I will go; and where thou lodgest, I will lodge: thy people shall be my people, and thy God my God: 17 Where thou diest, will I die, and there will I be buried: the LORD do so to me, and more also, if ought but death part thee and me.” (Ruth 1:16-17 KJV) Ruth was aware of the righteous life that God wanted her to live for Him. God had called her and she responded to God's call and she was willing to do it following His will.

Ruth when she came back with her mother in law she started to work to earn her living, to support her need and the need of her mother-in-law. She worked as a gleaner in the field of Boaz as you can read, *“1 And Naomi had a kinsman of her husband's, a mighty man of wealth, of the family of Elimelech; and his name was Boaz. 2 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. 3 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. 17 So she gleaned in the field until even, and beat out that she had gleaned: and it was about an ephah of barley. 18 And she took it up, and went into the city: and her mother in law saw what she had gleaned: and she brought forth, and gave to her that she had reserved after she was sufficed. 19 And her mother in law said unto her, Where hast thou gleaned to day? and where wroughtest thou? blessed be he that did take knowledge of thee. And she shewed her mother in law with whom she had wrought, and said, The man's name with whom I wrought to day is Boaz. 20 And Naomi said unto her daughter in law, Blessed be he of the LORD, who hath not left off his kindness to the living and to the dead. And Naomi said unto her, The man is near of kin unto us, one of our next kinsmen.” (Ruth 2:1-3, 17-20 KJV)*

Elimelech had a field in Bethlehem and as his two sons, Mahlon and Chilion died then one of his relatives should redeem it. In the process that we described above, God was testing who of the daughters in law of Naomi was faithful so she will be given in marriage to the kinsman-redeemer who will buy the land. When Naomi challenged Orpah and Ruth, it might she did not reveal to them the fact of having a parcel of land in Bethlehem. She did not tell them to come back with her and they will find kinsmen redeemers who will buy the land and marry them. Naomi promised them nothing because first, she cannot predict the future, and second, their commitment to God and the holiness of God must be proved first before promising them anything. So, Ruth as she proved her faithfulness, was fit to be rewarded by the Lord to have a family.

Now, Notice:

- In life, there are testing posts once you pass successfully from these posts you become eligible for God's blessings.
- Don't entice people with what you have, but put in front of them the difficulties that they will be passing through if they will choose to go with you to obey God. In this way, you will find out who is the genuine person that God had called to be with you.

My Dear and Beloved: You can see clearly how God is preparing people for Godly marriages. He brings them first from darkness into the light. Then He cleanses them and let them pass through the needful process to see if they are faithful, mature and willing to bear

the responsibilities. Then if they will respond to His call and what He had prepared them to do then He will integrate them through Godly marriages into Godly families.

Now reflect on the message in your life and see from where God brought you, and based on what we received today from His Word look forward on the good things that God had prepared for you to pass through to receive His blessings in full. **Let us pray**

My Prayer: *Father God, I come before you in the name of Jesus, who died on the cross for my sins and rose from the dead to give me eternal life. Lord I thank you for the salvation that I received from Jesus, thank you for the good plan that you have for me, and thank you for the teaching and the corrections and the admonishments that I received from this message.*

Confess and renounce all your sins. Confess your worldliness, and your love for material things. Confess and renounce your unfaithfulness to God and your non willingness to persevere in the time of trials and testing. Confess and renounce doing your own will and plan and not the will nor the plan of God, especially in pertain to marriage. Confess your marriage with non believer. Confess your lack of reading God's Word and your lack of prayers. Confess and renounce your yoke with non believers, having many friends and in bondage with the Media. Confess and renounce your bad example and your non willingness to serve God and suffer for Him. Lord forgive me, I repent of the following sins

Lord I commit myself to serve you and to live my life according to your plan and will for me and according to the teaching that I received in this message. Lord I am willing to suffer for you and to serve your will and your purpose in my life. Lord uphold me with your grace and provide for me so I will continue to live my life for you.

Lord thank you for my Brothers and Sisters who repented of their sins, humbled themselves and willing to follow your will and plan for them. Lord bless them, continue to provide for them and use them to serve you. Lord I pray that you will reward all those who are faithful in following you and doing your will.

Lord, bless us as your church, and help us to continue to teach and implement the preparation for Godly marriage and to prepare your people to do your will and your plan in their lives. Lord refill us with the Holy Spirit and give us the spiritual gifts that we need in order to go on and evangelize, and make new disciples and train new workers to go and plant more Bible studies and congregations for the church. Lord we pray for more people to get water baptized and receive the Holy Spirit baptism. Lord fulfill the vision of the church, 'Multiplication in peace with implementing the whole will of God.' Lord bless us, enlarge our territory, let your hand 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.

The Marriage of Boaz with Ruth Part 1. 1 Timothy 5:3-4, 11-16. Ruth 1:1-19. Hebrews 4:12. Romans 14:14-15. John 4:23-24. John 6:68. Ruth 1:16-17. Ruth 2:1-3, 17-20.

Dr. Ramiz Khalaf

The Church Overseer
Church of God
United Arab Emirates
www.churchofgoduae.com
Email: thebread1@gmail.com
Mobile Tel #: [00971551902647](tel:00971551902647)

Note: The Bread of Life is a weekly publication from the Church of God, United Arab Emirates. For further issues and more spiritual enrichment you can visit our web site at: www.churchofgoduae.com.

Share the message with your friends.

Please share with us your view about the message and if you have any question.

If you have a prayer request, please send it to this whatsapp Number: 00971551902647, or to this email: thebread1@gmail.com.

Please send your tithes, your first fruit, and your various offerings to the church to this account

BANK NAME:
First Abu Dhabi Bank (FAB)
ACCOUNT NAME:
RAMIZ BAHNAM ABBO KHALAF
ACCOUNT NO.:
1576003753162014
IBAN:
AE380351576003753162014
SWIFT CODE:
NBADAEAAACPU

Or contact me to this whatsapp Number: 00971551902647, or to this email: thebread1@gmail.com.

If you need counseling in area of your life, whether about family, children or finances, please be free to contact me to this whatsapp Number: 00971551902647, or to this email: thebread1@gmail.com.