

Communion Meditation

Ruth 2.23-3.5

Series: Ruth "Security Sought"

March 11, 2018

Time spent gleaning (vss 23)

- Ruth remained gleaning in Boaz's fields through two harvests (8-10 wks)
- A safe assumption is that she gleaned with them at least 1 month

Harvesting Ended / Winnowing Occurring

- Harvest has ended ~ "Boaz, whose young women you were with" (v2)
- "What is winnowing?"
 - Crush harvest underfoot / Allow chaff to blow away on eve breeze
 - Grain accumulates in circle and moved into heaps
- Boaz there to oversee & guard / 1.1 ~ "when the judges ruled"
 - Grasshoppers and the ants

Naomi's Plan

- v1 ~ "shall I not seek security for you?" / v2 ~ "Is he not our relative?"
 - Naomi is thinking out loud / sharing her thoughts with Ruth and us
- v3 ~ "wash yourself .. anoint yourself .. put on your best garment"
- v3 ~ "do not make yourself known to the man until .. finished .. drinking"
- v4 ~ "when he lies down .. uncover his feet, and lie down"
 - We must admit this has the appearance of impropriety

Subtle Reminder & Calculated Risk

- Over the past month, Boaz had proven himself to be a good man
 - Naomi is testing just how good a man he is . . .
 - Will he obey the law & honor her deceased husband, Elimelech?
- Ruth's action is a secret message being passed from Nomi to Boaz
 - He can allow it to remain secret / Only the 3 of them would know

Ruth presents herself to Boaz as a servant / lying crossways at his feet

But she also presents herself as a woman / looking good and smelling good

Naomi is discreetly giving Boaz a choice as to how to proceed

Naomi seeks security for Ruth / 1.9 ~ " .. rest, each in the house of her husband"

God grants us rest / security at His Table / at His feet as it were . . .