

Sermon Text Discussion 7/22/18

Ruth: The Triumph of Loyal Love

Ruth Chapters 2-3

By Jim Strietelmeier

Overview

The book of Ruth highlights how God's people experience his sovereignty, wisdom, and covenant kindness. These often come disguised in hard circumstances and are mediated through the kindness of others.

Quotation

"All that you say I will do." (Ruth 3:5; Ruth in response to Naomi's plan/instructions)

"And now, my daughter, do not fear. I will do for you all that you ask, for all my fellow townsmen know that you are a worthy woman. And now it is true that I am a redeemer. Yet there is a redeemer nearer than I. Remain tonight, and in the morning, if he will not redeem you, good; let him do it. But if he is not willing to redeem you, then as the LORD lives, I will redeem you." (Ruth 3:11-13; Boaz's response to Ruth)

We need to be like Ruth, to be worthy and be ready to use our time, skills and treasure to be used to the benefit of others; not live a selfish life. (Jim Strietelmeier)

Understanding & Application

1. What does it mean for Boaz to be Ruth's "kinsman-redeemer"? In what ways does this echo how God redeems us?
2. There are many instances of kindness and redemption throughout Ruth. Discuss a few of these with your group.
3. Naomi comes up with a plan for Ruth to meet with Boaz. Explain this plan. How does Ruth respond? How was this unique, especially in light of the spirit of the time described in Judges 21:25?
4. Boaz calls Ruth a "worthy woman". In what ways was she worthy? Read Proverbs 31, how are you challenged by this text? In what ways does Ruth exemplify qualities in Proverbs 31?