

Key: Ruth On The Threshing Floor is connected to The Marriage Proposal

Ruth 3:1a THEN Naomi her mother-in-law said to her,

Significant Events in Ruth 2:

- Ruth had loved Naomi, and lived the life of humility, care, and love.

Boaz gave three instructions to Ruth. She was completely obedient.

- ❖ Stay in my field. Stay close by my women. Drink from my vessels.

Ruth had been diligent and faithful to continue gleaning through the entire harvest.

Ruth 2:12 The Lord recompense thy work, and a full reward be given thee of

the Lord God of Israel, under whose wings you have come for refuge.

refuge: #2620 chasahit: expresses a conscious movement toward God for protection, deliverance, or hope. The action is never passive.

- ❖ It is the deliberate choice of faith in the face of threat, guilt, or uncertainty.

Hasah/hash figuratively speaks of Ruth putting her trust in Jehovah.

Ruth 20:b This man *is* a relation of ours, One Of Our Close Relatives.

Law of the Kinsman Redeemer: Law of Redemption Leviticus 25:47-50

Provision was made in the Law of Moses:

- for the poor person who was forced to sell part of his property or himself into slavery.
- Help relatives in need by redeeming property, avenging wrongs, and providing heirs for deceased family members.
- Restore the lost inheritance and freedom of his relatives.

Kinsman Redeemer had to meet 3 conditions: One who delivers or rescues

- a. He had to be a near kinsman.
- b. He had to be able to perform the duty.
- c. He had to be willing; it was not required.
- d. If the kinsman chose not to perform this duty, he had to give the widow his shoe, a symbol of shame. He had failed to do the kinsman's part.

In Ruth 3:9, we see a beautiful picture of the needy supplicant, unable to rescue herself, requesting of the kinsman-redeemer that he cover her with his protection, redeem her, and make her his wife.

Ruth 2:23 So, she [Ruth] stayed close by the young women of Boaz, to glean

until the end of barley harvest and wheat harvest; and she dwelt with her mother-in-law.

Ruth 2 ended with hope on the horizon. But gleaning is survival, not security.

A widow without a husband and without land had no future and no protection in that world.

Ruth 3 opens with Naomi turning her mind from the immediate need of bread to the deeper need of a settled and secure life.

Ruth 3:1 THEN Naomi her mother-in-law said to her,

"My daughter, shall I not seek security [rest] for you, that it may be well with you?

Rest = #4494 manoach = resting place; condition of rest and security attained by marriage

The word pictures the settled stability humanity craves, ultimately pointing to the Lord Himself as the only sure abode. [Biblehub.org]

The marriage of Boaz and Ruth will not only ensure *rest* for Ruth but will also raise up the seed of Naomi's dead son and preserve the family name. The rest she seeks for Ruth is the very thing the kinsman-redeemer was given by law to provide.

Hamilton: In his former dealings Boaz had shown marvelous grace to Ruth. He had put at her disposal his fields, his corn, his maidens & his young men. He had given her water from his well, parched corn from his table & let handfuls of grain fall on purpose.

Ruth had found favor in the sight of Boaz, and had tasted the exceeding riches of his grace, but she had not yet found the rest of unbroken fellowship.

➤ She was not yet in the yoke with Boaz by the marriage tie.

Ruth 3:2a Now Boaz, whose young women you were with, is he not our relative?

➤ Relative; kinsman = #4130 modaath = ONLY time used in Bible

This brief notice locates the word at the hinge of Ruth's story, just before Ruth approaches Boaz on the threshing floor. The verse unites three narrative strands: Naomi's concern for Ruth's future, Ruth's demonstrated loyalty, and Boaz's capacity to act on behalf of the family. The single occurrence anchors the book's theology: God works through recognized kinship to turn emptiness into fullness, a pattern ultimately perfected in the saving work of Christ.

Christological Foreshadowing: A known relative who redeems anticipates Jesus Christ:

- Incarnation makes Jesus our true "kinsman." Heb. 2:14-17
- Redemption cost is paid at His initiative. Mark 10:45
- The marriage of Boaz and Ruth points ahead to the Church's union with Christ. Eph. 5:25-27

Ruth 3:2 Now Boaz, whose young women you were with, is he not our relative?

Behold, he is winnowing barley tonight at the threshing floor.

A. He is winnowing BARLEY at the threshing floor.

Barley was offered during the Feast of First Fruits [Lev. 23:9-14; Nisan 17].

- Barley symbolizes the resurrected Christ. Resurrection was on Nisan 17.
- Every born-again believer has the resurrected life of Christ in him. Justification
- Every born-again believer can be considered as a "piece of barley."
- All "barley" is set apart and dedicated to God.

B. Boaz was WINNOWER the barley. It represents judgment, purification, and separation.

Winnowing demanded a deliberate act—lifting, tossing, waiting for the wind, and repeating until only the useful grain remained.

- a purposeful process that distinguishes what deserves to stay from what must depart.

- The wind blows away the chaff which allows the grain to fall back to the ground where it can be gathered and used.
- Purification Process; Winnowing does not annihilate the harvest; it protects it.

Winnowing, as a Biblical metaphor, illustrates God's righteous judgment and His desire for a holy people, purified and set apart for His purposes.

- Reminds us of God's holiness and the necessity for purity in our lives.
- Calls believers to self-examination and repentance
- Calls believers to a life of holiness, discernment and readiness for the coming of the Lord.
- Winnowing reflects the ongoing work of sanctification where God separates sin from the lives of believers. He refines them to reflect His character.

C. Ruth 3:2b Behold, he is winnowing barley TONIGHT at the threshing floor.

Winnowing barley at night involves using the wind to separate the grain from the chaff.

This process involves tossing the threshed grain into the air so the wind can carry away the impurities while the grain falls back down.

The Holy Spirit as the Wind

Symbolizes His unseen yet powerful presence and transformative work in believers' lives.

Aspect	Wind Winnowing	Holy Spirit in Believers
Invisible Force	Cannot be seen but felt	Unseen presence felt in heart
Purification	Separates grain from chaff	Purifies & empowers believers
Guidance	Directs the chaff away	Guides in Spiritual Journey
Transformation	Changes state of the grain	Transforms lives through Spiritual Renewal

Just as the wind is essential for effective winnowing, the Holy Spirit is crucial for spiritual growth and empowerment. When believers yield to the Holy Spirit, they experience:

- Purification: The Holy Spirit helps to remove impurities and distractions.
This allows a believer to focus on his spiritual growth.
- Empowerment: Believers receive strength and guidance to fulfill their purpose.
- Transformation: The Spirit brings about significant changes,
enabling believers to live in accordance with God's will.

D. Boaz is Winnowing the Barley at the THRESHING FLOOR.

The threshing floor in Biblical imagery represents several profound spiritual concepts, primarily focusing on separation, judgment, and refinement.

Separation: Just as threshing separates valuable grain from worthless chaff,

it reflects God's work in refining believers, removing impurities that hinder His purpose.

Refinement: The process of threshing is associated with spiritual purification and preparation for something new in your life and for life in His coming Kingdom.

Just as grain is refined through separation, believers undergo trials and tribulations that lead to spiritual growth and maturity.

1. A threshing season in life is a metaphorical, often painful, period of intense refinement, where challenges—like financial struggles, broken relationships, or health crises, act as tools to separate essential character and faith from "chaff."
2. It is a time to release pride, fear, and unhealthy dependencies to gain spiritual maturity. Our faith and character are strengthened
3. This is often a painful, but necessary, process of refinement.

Enduring the Pain: While the process can feel like a breakdown, it is actually a setup for a breakthrough.

I Pet. 1:6-7 Trials are likened to the refining process, leading to spiritual growth. So be truly glad. There is wonderful joy ahead, even though you must endure many trials for a little while. ⁷ These trials will show that your faith is genuine. It is being tested as fire tests and purifies gold—though your faith is far more precious than mere gold. So when your faith remains strong through many trials, it will bring you much praise and glory and honor on the day when Jesus Christ is revealed. [NLT]

II Cor. 4:16-18 Therefore we do not lose heart. Even though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward *man* is being renewed day by day. ¹⁷ For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding *and* eternal weight of glory, ¹⁸ while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen *are* temporary, but the things which are not seen *are* eternal.

- God's future reward far exceeds earthly cost. [Rom. 8:18]

Heb. 12:2 Looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of *our* faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Location of Intense Surrender: Acknowledge that the battle is His. It is a place of deep, "broken" prayer where one humbles himself before the Lord, effectively stopping the enemy's influence and inviting the Lord's intervention. Instead of resisting, embracing the process allows for a deeper connection with God, turning trials into testimony.

Symbol of Divine Rebuilding and Provision: It represents a difficult, but ultimately, rewarding experience. God turns the trials of the past into a foundation for a new, blessed future.

- David: Used the threshing floor of Ornan to halt a plague, turning a place of judgment into a place of worship [I Chron. 21].
- Ruth: Met Boaz at the threshing floor to secure her redemption and future.
- Gideon: Was found by God in a state of fear but was transformed into a deliverer

The threshing floor represents the "crumbling" of the old to make way for the new, a vital, albeit, challenging part of the spiritual journey.

Place To Encounter God's Glory: It is often a sacred space where individuals, like Ruth, experience God's presence in a tangible and transformative way, moving from the outer, superficial areas of faith to a deeper, more intimate, relationship with Him. Become His Bride

It emphasizes peace, surrender, and trust in His plan.

- Fulfillment: By resting in God's purpose, individuals can find true meaning and satisfaction in life, Aligning Their Lives With His Will.

Threshing in our lives: All believers begin as a piece of "barley."

- Threshing is used to loosen our hold of earthly things and break us away from evil.
- Threshing becomes needful for the sake of our usefulness.
- Nothing but the grace of God can make the threshing effectual.

Ruth: *Picture Of The Bride Of Christ* Preparing

To Meet Boaz, *Type Of Christ, Our Kinsman Redeemer*

Ruth 3:2 Seeking marriage; Boaz is a close relative; Winnowing barley tonight; threshing floor

Ruth 3:3 Therefore, wash yourself and anoint yourself,

put on your *best* garment and go down to the threshing floor;

but do not make yourself known to the man until he has finished eating and drinking.

1. Be Freshly Cleansed. You Are Going To Meet Him.

Ps. 66:18 If we regard iniquity in our heart the Lord will not hear.

James 4:8 Come close to God [with a contrite heart] and He will come close to you.

Wash your hands, you sinners; and purify your [unfaithful] hearts, you double-minded.

- Double-minded: for your loyalty is divided between God and the world.
- Purify your heart: Become single-minded

Phil. 3:12-14 Not that I have already attained, or am already perfected; but I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me.

¹³ Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do,

forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, ¹⁴ I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

II Cor 7:1 Having, therefore, these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.

- We must separate ourselves from what defiles or pollutes us.
- Clean out our library, cd's, DVD's, Magazines, TV.

Note: If the OT priests came into God's presence defiled, they were in danger of death.

Eph. 5:25b-26 Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for it, that He might sanctify it and cleanse it by the washing of water by the Word.

2. Be Fragrantly Consecrated Anoint Thyself

Come with an aroma, come with an anointing.

- All believers have received the anointing of the Spirit.
- Therefore, we ought to be a "fragrance of Christ" to God the Father.

How am I anointed? What gives me a sweet-smelling fragrance to my bridegroom?

I John 2:27 As for you, the anointing [the preparation] which you received from Him remains [permanently; abides] in you, and you have no need for anyone to teach you.

But just as His anointing teaches you [giving you insight through the presence of the Holy Spirit] about all things, and is true and is not a lie, and just as His anointing has taught you, you must remain in Him [being rooted in Him, knit to Him].

Truth: When I am clean and filled with the Holy Spirit, He gives us the fragrance of Christ.

3. Put on Your Best Garment. Be fitly clothed.

- Put off the garments of a sorrowing widow & put on the garments for a wedding.

Ruth is a prospective bride going to see Boaz, her Kinsman Redeemer, a type of Jesus Christ. How do you come before the Lord Jesus Christ?

Eccl. 9:8 Let your clothes always be white [purity] and never spare the oil on your head.

Rev. 3:4 Thou hast a few names even in Sardis which have not defiled their garments; and they shall walk with me in white: for they are worthy.

- Found worthy is linked with not defiling their garments.

I Pet. 2:9a But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people;

Rev. 1:6 and He made us *into* a kingdom, priests to His God and Father—

to Him *be* the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen.

Rev. 5:10 And have made us unto our God a kingdom of priests: and we shall reign on the earth.

Benson: White robes were worn on occasions of great joy, & sometimes in triumphal processions.

The Old Testament stresses: In order for the priests to stand before the Lord, they had to have on "Holy" Garments. [Ex. 28:1, 36-38]

- These garments were "for glory and for beauty." [Ex. 28:2, 40]
- These garments meant the priest reflected God's holiness.
- Without this garment of holiness, the priest was forbidden to come into God's presence [Lev. 21:6-8]

Highlights the importance of personal faithfulness & the individual responsibility of believers to

- Remain pure & steadfast in their walk with God.

Rev. 3:5 He that overcomes, the same shall be clothed in white raiment;

Rev. 19:7-8 Let's rejoice and be glad and give the glory to Him, because the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His bride has prepared herself. It was given to her to clothe herself in fine linen, bright and clean; for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints.

The 2nd garment Christ requires for the Marriage festivities is the white, fine linen garment made up of the believer's "righteous works."

These are Spirit-led deeds performed after our justification; works of godliness and deeds of righteousness that the Holy Spirit PRODUCES through us.

His wife hath *made herself* READY: and it was given unto her - from the inexhaustible reservoirs of grace on which she can draw - "*that she should array herself*" - her active application of that grace to her own heart and conduct - "in fine linen, bright and pure":

4. Be fully committed Ruth 3:3b-4 *and go down to the threshing floor;*

but do not make yourself known to the man until he has finished eating and drinking. Then it shall be, when he lies down, that you shall mark [notice] the place where he lies, and thou shalt go in, and uncover his feet, and lie down; and he will tell you what you should do.
Key: Place yourself at the feet of your redeemer.

Ruth was assuming a position of submission and humility. This was a sign of full commitment. She offers herself. She was coming to his feet to propose marriage. She was asking him to obey the law of the kinsman redeemer and take her as his wife.

Ruth 3:5 And she said unto her, Ruth said to Naomi, "All that thou sayest unto me I will do."

- Ruth is ready to obey. She is not just a hearer of the Word, but a doer of the Word.

John 14:21 The one who has My commandments and keeps them is the one who loves Me; and the one who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and will reveal Myself to him."

Rogers: Bible study gives you knowledge about God. Obedience gives you knowledge of God.

All the rest is just religious talk. Don't you stand up and sing,

"Oh, how I love Jesus," and you don't obey Him.

Ruth 3:6 So she went down to the threshing floor and did according to all that her mother-in-law instructed her.

- Ruth's approach to Boaz on the threshing floor was a bold step of faith.
- She trusted in God's provision and took action.

Heb. 11:6 But without faith *it is* impossible to please *Him*, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and *that* He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.

- Sometimes, stepping out in faith is necessary to see God's plans unfold in our lives.

Don't Fear the Floor: God is calling His people to purity, purpose, and presence.

He still meets us on the threshing floor—

transforming fear into faith, sacrifice into strength, and judgment into redemption.

God's threshing floor is far more than a place to separate wheat from chaff. It's a divine stage.

- Personal, national, and eternal destinies are revealed.

Place of refining: God uses trials and tests to separate what's lasting from what's superficial.

Place of encounter: Many of God's most powerful moments happen in hidden, humble places.

Place of decision: Like Gideon, Ruth, and David,

we're called to obedience even when the stakes are high.

Place of harvest: God's goal isn't destruction, but fruitful, lasting growth.

Embrace God's Threshing Floor:

Knowing that what remains after God's refining fire is something truly eternal

Consider: Are you living for time or eternity? Are you so focused on earthly rewards that you have lost sight of the amazing truth that our Kinsman-Redeemer will graciously give us eternal rewards for our work in time? Works wrought by "abiding in the Vine." [John 15:5]

- Every believer will someday be lifted before the divine breeze.

II Cor. 5:9 - Eternal Accountability

"So we make it our goal to please Him, whether we are at home in the body or away from it."

- Paul's ultimate horizon is the Judgment Seat Of Christ. Ambition becomes eschatological: Present choices take their weight from future evaluation.
- This verse sits in a context of resurrection hope, showing that heavenly orientation fuels present faithfulness.

II Cor. 5:10 For we must all appear before the Judgment Seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things *done* in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.

- marks events and duties fixed by the Lord's will, brings personal disclosure:

II Cor. 5:11a Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we persuade people,

The Lord assesses every work, whether noble or worthless.

Believers rest in Christ's righteousness, yet their works will still be evaluated for quality.

The issue at the Judgment Seat of Christ is the awarding or withholding of rewards.

I Cor. 3:11-15 For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

¹² Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble;

- [Building on any rival—law, tradition, human wisdom—invites eventual collapse.]

¹³ Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is.

¹⁴ If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward.

¹⁵ If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss:
but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire.

Just as there was a betrothal period in Biblical times during which the bride and groom were separated until the wedding, so is the bride of Christ separate from her Bridegroom during the church age. Her responsibility during the betrothal period is to be faithful to Him.

- It is not a life of cheap grace without taking up our cross.
- It is a place of daily submission to the Lord Jesus Christ.
- It is a place where we offer ourselves as a living sacrifice with a humble heart on God's threshing floor so He can burn away from us everything that is chaff - - not like Jesus.

This act of worship can be seen as stepping onto God's threshing floor,

To meet with & commune with our bridegroom, Jesus Christ.

What are you willing to do to prepare yourself?

II John 1:8 Look to yourselves, that we do not lose those things we worked for,
but *that* we may receive a full reward.

Rev. 22:12 And behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward *is* with Me,
to give to everyone according to his work.

Lord, let me be content to labor at what You have given me to do,

knowing that the fruit and the harvest will be of Your making and not mine.

Steadman: Only one life, 'twill soon be past. Only what Christ does through me will last.